WARRIOR CITIZEN

ARMY RESERVE
100 YEARS STRONG
1908-2008

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE U.S. ARMY RESERVE SPRING 2008

1908-2008

ARMY RESERVE: READY FOR THE NEXT 100 YEARS

100TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE EDITION

www.armyreserve.mil

"I couldn't imagine not being in the Army Reserve."

— Sergeant First Class Annie Adams, an eleven-year Army Reserve Warrior-Citizen who participated in the Army Reserve's centennial re-enlistment ceremony. She is assigned to the 316th Expeditionary Sustainment Command in Iraq.

General David Petraeus, commanding general of Multi-National Force — Iraq, administers the oath of enlistment to 100 Reserve Soldiers at a mass re-enlistment ceremony at Al Faw Palace, Camp Victory, Iraq, January 18, 2008.

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WARRIOR-CITIZEN

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ARMY RESERVE COMMAND TEAM

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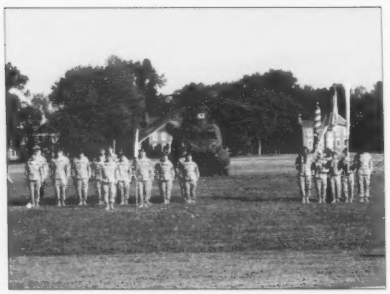
MY ARMY RESERVE LIFE: USARC Soldier-Chefs Sharpen Their Skills



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Army Reserve, 100 years of proud service to the nation.

ON THE BACK COVER

How to earn $2,000. The Army Reserve Recruiting Assistance Program (AR-RAP) makes every Soldier a potential recruiter.

UPPER RIGHT

Over 90 Soldier-Heroes, to include 33 Army Reserve Soldier-Heroes, march onto the field at the Alamo Dome in San Antonio during pre-game festivities of the 2008 All-American Bowl on Saturday, January 6. (Photo: Maj. Hillary Luton)

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NEW LOOK: *WARRIOR-CITIZEN* MAGAZINE

EDITOR'S NOTE

In this special issue of *WARRIOR-CITIZEN* Magazine we focus on the 100th Anniversary of the Army Reserve. All across the country communities will be focused of the service and sacrifice of our Army Reserve Soldiers and their Families in various events across the country such as Memorial Day, Veterans Day and other special occasions.

We begin our coverage with recognition of a century of service by America's Warrior-Citizens from President Bush and our senior Army Reserve leadership. Following this is a condensed version of the history of the Army Reserve from Dr. Lee Harford, Army Reserve historian, members of his staff and Col. Randy Pullen, (USAR Ret.). Following that we provide lists of all the Chiefs of the Army Reserve, Command Chief Warrant Officers and Command Sergeants Major.

Then we present departments featuring blog sites, News You Can Use, Training Briefs, Army Reserve Families, and My Army Reserve Life featuring aviators, chaplains and logisticians. Next is our section on Army Reserve Transformation with maps, statistics on deployments and construction projects, command organizations, activations, inactivations and conversions and feature stories on these same topics.

Rounding out our coverage for this Anniversary issue is the Army Reserve Communities department featuring stories on the new commander of AAFES, an Army Reserve Soldier, the 108th Training Command receiving the 2007 DoD Family Readiness Award, Operation Toy Drop and an ESGR story of a business supporting one of its employees who has been on multiple deployments.

At the end of our magazine, along with a story featuring the Army Reserve Warrior and Family Assistance Center, is a pull-out magnet with the Center's logo, Web site and telephone number on it for you to keep for future reference.

As always *WARRIOR-CITIZEN* Magazine will continue to rely on submissions from Army Reserve Soldiers, Family members and Department of the Army Civilians who make up our readership. You are in the areas where operations and events occur. Your excellent stories and photos are anticipated and appreciated. Keep them coming.

We hope you will find this issue commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Army Reserve to be both interesting and informative.

Paul Adams
Editor-in-Chief

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 8, 2008

I send greetings to all those celebrating the 100th anniversary of the United States Army Reserve.

Since 1908, the Army Reserve has been committed to providing well-trained soldiers, resources, and other critical support to the United States Army in times of war and peace. Today, the members of the Army Reserve are defending our Nation at home and abroad with valor, decency, and resolve, and taking their rightful place among the heroes of our Nation's history. Americans are grateful for their sacrifice, and I am proud to be their Commander in Chief. This milestone is a time to honor our brave men and women in uniform, who work to ensure America remains a country where our citizens can live in freedom.

I appreciate the soldiers, veterans, and families of the Army Reserve, and all those who help protect our way of life. You have set an example of courage and idealism for future generations.

Laura and I send our best wishes on this special occasion. May God bless you, may God bless our troops, and may God bless America.

April 2, 2008

The Army Reserve's 100th anniversary acknowledges our nation's enduring need for such a force, and it gives us an opportunity to recognize the contributions of hundreds of thousands of men and women who sustained the organization for a century.

Further, this anniversary recognizes that the force has changed over 100 years from a small reserve force of about 160 medical professionals into a much more capable force that provided all types of combat-arms, combat-support and combat-service-support capabilities to what it is today: a CS/CSS-focused operational, expeditionary, and domestic force that is an essential piece of the Army.

As we mark our 100th anniversary, our transformation to an operational force continues. It has resulted in the most dramatic changes to Army Reserve structure, training and readiness since World War II.

Today's Army Reserve is no longer a strategic reserve; instead, it is an operational force and an integral part of the world's greatest Army. Today's units are prepared and available to deploy with a full complement of trained Soldiers and equipment when the Nation calls. Today's Army Reserve Soldier is a member of the best trained, best led, and best equipped fighting force our Nation has ever fielded.

What hasn't changed in 100 years is the commitment, selfless service, and personal courage of our men and women who voluntarily put their lives on hold — and on the line — to defend our country and our freedoms.

As others have for one hundred years, today's Army Reserve Soldiers draw their strength from the love and support of their families, their friends and their employers. For a century of letters, care packages and yellow ribbons, we thank them.

Today's Army Reserve Soldiers represent the values upon which our country was founded. They are citizens who are willing to lay down their plows and pick up their rifles when called upon. They're proud of their service. They're proud to say they're part of the Army Reserve.

They are ready for the next one hundred years.

Sincerely,

Lieutenant General Jack C. Stultz
Chief, U.S. Army Reserve

Command Sergeant Major Leon Caffie
Command Sergeant Major, U.S. Army Reserve

THE ARMY RESERVE AT 100 YEARS

FORWARD

By Lee S. Harford, Jr., Ph.D.
Army Reserve Historian

The antecedents and heritage of the current United States Army Reserve are found in the tradition of the "federal" or "national" American Citizen-Soldier, dating back at least as far as the French and Indian War (1756–1763). The U.S. Constitution of 1789 and Militia Act of 1792 officially reaffirmed the continued reliance of the new nation on the Citizen-Soldier for defense. Besides the genuine concern of political usurpation by a professional military force, the founding fathers realized that an Army primarily drawn from the general citizenry during times of national emergency also averted the possibility for unpopular wars. During such times, Citizen-Soldiers become Warrior-Citizens!

With the birth of the United States, for the first time in history a major state existed with a republican form of government, where sovereignty rested with the people, not a monarch or dictator. Americans created a system of government to uphold the freedom of opportunity for all citizens and to guarantee their rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of property. These rights came at a price. Every citizen held the responsibility to defend and preserve their rights by serving in the armed forces for the defense of the republic. Thus, the American Citizen-Soldier became the backbone of the armed forces from the very birth of the nation. The tradition has continued to the present day, and the federal Citizen-Soldier and the Army Reserve played fundamental roles in the American military establishment as it evolved over the centuries.

Warrior-Citizens of America represents the second edition of a brief history of the United States Army Reserve. It provides a summary of the significant events and developments that have shaped the Army Reserve and a historical perspective in support of the reserve component's mission — ensuring the wartime readiness of those forces assigned, serving as a guide for current and future operations. Initially, the federal Citizen-Soldier establishment served as a "strategic" force in reserve until the end of the Cold War. With the emergence of the Post-Cold War World and the Global War on Terrorism the role changed to an "operational" force in partnership with a nearly-continuously deployed active Army.

I am certain that all members of the Army Reserve and any student of military history will find this issue an interesting, useful addition to their professional libraries.

THE ARMY RESERVE AT 100

WANTED: CIVILIAN EXPERTISE FOR THE ARMY

The U.S. Army Reserve has been through a great deal of history since Congress established the Army's first federal reserve force on April 23, 1908.

World War I. The Great Depression. World War II. The Cold War. The Korean War. The Vietnam War. The Persian Gulf War. The War on Terrorism. And countless other crises, emergencies, disasters, operations and expeditions.

That busy century of service to America all began after President Theodore Roosevelt, one of this nation's great Citizen-Soldiers himself, signed Senate Bill 1424, creating the Medical Reserve Corps. The Reserve medical officers in the corps could be ordered to active duty by the Secretary of War during time of emergency.

In June 1908, the first 160 medical professionals received Reserve commissions. This number grew to about 360 by 1909 and to 1,900 by 1916. The concept of bringing civilian professionals into the Army in a disciplined and quickly-accessible manner would soon expand beyond the medical profession and beyond just officers.

Photo: U.S. Army

An Army field hospital in World War I. The Army Reserve's contribution to Army medicine in World War I was enormous. There were 9,223 Reserve medical officers by June 1917.

In 1912, the Regular Army Reserve was created, a federal reserve outside of the Medical Reserve Corps. It grew much more slowly than its predecessor; by 1913, there were only eight enlisted men in it.

FIRST MOBILIZATION AND FIRST WORLD WAR

Three years later, some 3,000 Army Reserve Soldiers would be called up to serve beside their Regular Army and National Guard comrades along the south-

National Guard Heritage Painting

On March 9, 1916, Mexican rebels led by "Pancho" Villa attacked Columbus, New Mexico. All available troops were rushed to the U.S.-Mexican border, but there were not enough regulars to patrol the vast area. Thus, 3,000 Army Reserve Soldiers were activated. This was the first mobilization of the Army Reserve.

Photo: U.S. Forest Service

Army officers conduct a formation at a Civilian Conservation Corps camp during the 1930s. During the Great Depression, more than 30,000 Organized Reserve Corps officers managed some 2,700 CCC camps.

ern border of the United States. This first mobilization of the Army Reserve was due to tension between the United States and Mexico caused by the actions of the Mexican revolutionary, Francisco "Pancho" Villa, and the subsequent punitive expedition after him led by Brig. Gen. John J. Pershing. A second Mexican-American War was averted but this mobilization provided invaluable experience for America's Army in the greater war soon to come.

As World War I raged on it Europe, major changes were taking place in the Army's structure. The National Defense Act of 1916 established the Officers' Reserve Corps (into which the Medical Reserve Corps would be merged in 1917), the Enlisted Reserve Corps and the Reserve Officers Training Corps. When the United States entered World War I in April 1917, these organizations — as well as the entire Army — would expand dramatically. For example, by June 1917, there would be 9,223 Army Reserve doctors, dentists and veterinarians, a huge increase from the original 160 only nine years earlier.

More than 170,000 Army Reserve Soldiers served on active duty during the First World War. The Reserve Doughboys of the Great War served in every division of the American Expeditionary Force in France, whether those divisions were Regular Army, National Guard or National Army.

Among their ranks was President Roosevelt's son, Col. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., who served in the 1st Infantry Division; Maj. Charles Whittlesey, who led the 77th Infantry Division's "Lost Battalion" during its heroic battle in the Meuse-Argonne, and Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker, "America's Ace of Aces." All three would receive the Medal of Honor, Whittlesey and Rickenbacker for World War I heroism, Roosevelt for his courage in World War II. Their example and those of all the Citizen-Soldier Doughboys set the standard that Army Reserve Soldiers have followed ever since.

BETWEEN THE WARS

The era between the world wars was a difficult one for the Army. War Department plans in the early 1920s called for 33 Reserve divisions (27 infantry and six cavalry), along with 11 Regular Army and 22 National Guard divisions. This robust force was not realized. For the Organized Reserve, lack of both funding and enlisted Soldiers meant that its 33 divisions were nothing more than cadre units during the 1920s and 1930s (The 27 Organized Reserve infantry divisions were brought up to strength during the mobilization for World War II. All 27 were deployed overseas and all but one saw combat in Europe or in the Pacific. Two Organized Reserve divisions, the 82nd and 101st Infantry Divisions, were converted into the Army's first airborne divisions. Both are now in the Active Army today. The six Organized Reserve cavalry divisions were disbanded.).

There were few incentives for service, active or reserve, other than dedication to duty and patriotism during the inter-war years. In the Organized Reserve (as the Army Reserve was called at this time), which was primarily an organization of Reserve officers because few enlisted men served, there was no pay for unit drill and no retirement plan. With the national economy in tatters during the 1930s, training became even rarer. No year in that decade saw more than 30 percent of Reserve officers undergo annual training; in 1934, only 14 percent did so.

Despite these and other hardships, the Army Reserve continued to answer the call to serve in emergencies, such

Photo: U.S. Army

Troops of the 89th Infantry Division (Organized Reserve) huddle down inside their landing craft as they cross the Rhine River under enemy fire in March 1945. All 27 of the pre-war Organized Reserve infantry divisions were mobilized during World War II and all but one fought in combat.

as the national emergency of the Great Depression. Between 1933 and 1939, more than 30,000 Organized Reserve Corps officers were involved in running some 2,700 Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camps. The CCC was one of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's key New Deal programs that provided jobs to unemployed young men across the country.

WORLD WAR II

With the outbreak of war in Europe in 1939 and especially after the fall of France in June 1940, the United States began rearming in earnest. The nation began calling on its long-neglected Reserve as a key element in rebuilding its armed forces. There were some 2,700 Reserve officers serving on active duty in mid-1940; within a year, there were 57,000 on active duty. About 90 percent of the Army's company grade officers in June 1941 were recently-mobilized Army Reserve officers.

The Reserve presence in World War II was considerable. In a typical Regular Army combat division during the peak war years, Reserve Soldiers occupied most of the mid-grade officer positions.

For example, a 1944 War Department study in one Regular Army infantry division found that 62.5 percent of the battalion commanders, 84.5 percent of the company commanders and 30.3 percent of the platoon leaders were Reserve Soldiers.

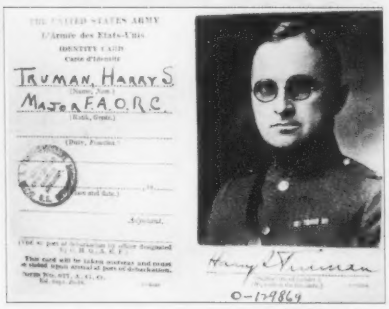
Another survey gives an indication of how dear the cost of defeating Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan was. Between Sept. 1, 1943, and May 31, 1944, 52.4 percent of the Army officers killed in action and 27.7 percent of those missing in action came from the Organized Reserve.

By the end of the war, more than 200,000 Reserve Soldiers were on active duty, serving on every front. Roughly a quarter of all Army officers serving during the war were Army Reserve officers.

Most of them were in the grades of first lieutenant through lieutenant colonel. They included Lt. Col. James Earl Rudder who led Rudder's Rangers up the Pointe du Hoc cliffs on D-Day; Lt. Col. Strom Thurmond who crash-landed in a glider with the 82nd Airborne Division on D-Day; Lt. Col. Henry Cabot Lodge who resigned from the U.S. Senate to serve in North Africa, Normandy and Italy; and Capt. Ronald Reagan who used his civil-

Army Reserve Historical Painting

An Army Reserve Corps doctor and Red Cross nurse, along with other medical Soldiers, asses the condition of the wounded and prioritize patient treatment. The wounded at the hospital helped stop the German offensive north of the town of Suippes in northwestern France from July 15–18, 1918. Both the U.S. Army's 42nd and 77th Divisions fought in this area alongside other American units and the French Army.



Harry S Truman Library

Future President Harry S Truman as an Organized Reserve Corps major. A combat veteran of World War I, Truman was rebuffed in his desire to come on active duty during World War II. As fate would have it, instead he became the Commander in Chief in 1945.

Photo: U.S. Army

Brig. Gen. Theodore Roosevelt Jr. sits on his jeep, "Rough Rider," during World War II.

ian-acquired skills as a movie star to make Army Air Force training films.

A number progressed to general officer rank. In April 1942, Lt. Col. James H. Doolittle led 16 Army B-25 bombers off the aircraft carrier Hornet on the first aerial attack against Japan. For leading what was immortalized as "the Doolittle Raid," he received the Medal of Honor and a promotion from lieutenant colonel to brigadier general. He would go on to command the Eighth Air Force and end the war as a lieutenant general.

Maj. Gen. William J. Donovan had received the Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross and three Purple Hearts while leading a battalion of the 165th Infantry Regiment (the old "Fighting 69th" regiment from the Civil War), 42nd Infantry Division, in World War I. Recalled to active duty as a colonel in 1942, Donovan headed the nation's espionage and sabotage agency, the Office of Strategic Services, known as the OSS, the World War II predecessor of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Another hero from the First World War who also fought in the Second was Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., who returned to duty as a colonel in 1941 and was soon promoted to brigadier general. After combat in North Africa and Sicily with the 1st Infantry Division, Roosevelt led the 4th Infantry Division ashore on Utah Beach, the first general officer to come ashore on a Normandy beach on D-Day. For his leadership and courage on June 6, 1944, he received the Medal of Honor. He died of a heart attack on July 12, 1944, never learning that he had been selected for promotion to major general and command of the 90th Infantry Division.

One Reserve officer reached the highest position possible: Commander in Chief. Harry S Truman, who commanded a Field Artillery battery in combat during World War I, joined the Organized Reserve in 1920 and rose to the rank of colonel. He was elected U.S. Senator from Missouri in 1934. When the war began, Truman requested to be called to active duty but was turned down by Army Chief of Staff Gen. George C. Marshall, who said Truman was more valuable to the country in the Senate than he would be in the Army.

Marshall, as usual, was correct. As head of a special sub-committee, Truman investigated wastefulness in the nation's defense programs and saved the government billions of dollars from fraud and mismanagement. His new national prominence helped gain him a spot as President Roosevelt's running mate in 1944. When Roosevelt died on April 12, 1945, Vice President (and Organized Reserve Col.) Truman became the President of the United States and led the nation to final victory in World War II.

WAR IN KOREA

Five years after the end of World War II, Army Reserve men and women (Women were authorized to join the Organized Reserve in 1948.) were called to duty again, this time for war in Korea. At the time of the North Korean invasion of South Korea in June 1950, the Organized Reserve Corps consisted of 217,435 officers and 291,182 enlisted members. Of those, 68,785 officers and 117,756 enlisted personnel were participating in paid drills.

The Army of 1950 was dangerously hollow at home and abroad. The nearest ground troops available for deployment to Korea were from General of the Army Douglas MacArthur's occupation force in Japan. His four divisions there were under strength, under trained and not ready physically or mentally for combat with the tough North Korean People's Army. The first Army ground force that met them, the ill-fated Task Force Smith, was swiftly defeated on July 5, 1950. More disastrous defeats followed for the Americans and South Koreans until only the southeast portion of the Korean peninsula remained in United States and South Korean hands.

To rebuild the Army, both in Korea and worldwide (There was real fear at the time that war in Korea was only the first battle of a global Communist attack.), the nation called on its reserve components, the Organized Reserves and the National Guard.

Within the first few weeks of the war, President Truman called up 25,000 individual Organized Reserve Soldiers. More than 10,000 of these were junior officers and noncommissioned officers, whose World War II combat experience was

Army Reserve Historical Painting

Kauon-Ni, Korea, December 1952. Battery C of the 780th Field Artillery Battalion fires an 8-inch howitzer, helping destroy enemy artillery and automatic weapons positions at Kajon-Ni, Korea near the 38th parallel. The 780th, an Army Reserve battalion, from Roanoke, Va., served in Korea from April 1951 to December 1954. During the Korean War, more than 240,000 Army Reserve Soldiers were called to active duty with more than 70 units serving in Korea.

desperately needed. By the end of the first year of the war, another 135,000 individual Reserve Soldiers would be called up.

Because of the need for experienced leaders, as well as the decision not to strip men from organized units as replacements or fillers for other units, it was the Inactive Reserves, those who had neither been drilling nor been given drill pay, who were sent to Korea first. There was a great deal of bitterness among these Soldiers about the inequity of their going back to war before their fellow Reserve Soldiers who had been actively drilling, not to mention the millions available for military service who were still going about their normal lives.

Despite their complaints, they did go to Korea. Their experience was invaluable in restoring the fighting prowess of the American Army. Army Reserve Soldiers served in all units of the Army during the Korean War, from the Pusan Perimeter battles through the cessation of hostilities in 1953. More than 240,000 Reserve Soldiers were eventually called to active duty for service in Korea and for rebuilding the Army at home and in Europe. Fourteen Reserve battalions and 40 separate companies went to Korea. Seven Reserve Soldiers — men like Capt. Raymond Harvey and Cpl. Hiroshi Miyamura — received the Medal of Honor for their combat heroism.

Harvey, a decorated combat veteran of World War II, was recalled to active duty from the Organized Reserves in 1948. He landed at Inchon in September 1950 with the 7th Infantry Division. Two months later, he took command of Company C, 1st Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment. On March 9, 1951, Harvey led his company up Hill 1232, near Taemi-Dong. After personally eliminating three enemy machine gun positions, he was seriously wounded. Despite his wound, he continued to direct his company in capturing the hill. Later while being prepped for surgery, he was presented with a Silver Star, earned for heroism five months early. On July 5, 1951, Harvey received the Medal of Honor for his actions on Hill 1232 from President Truman.

While Harvey received the Medal of Honor for taking a hill, Miyamura received his for trying to hold one. He came into the active Army from the Enlisted Reserve Corps early in the Korean War and became a machine gun squad leader in Company H, 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division. On April 24, 1951, Miyamura was ordered to hold a hill near Taejon-ni against Chinese Communist troops for as long as possible. Throughout the night of April 24–25, he and his 15 men did just that. Several enemy assaults were repelled, with Miyamura directed the defense and frequently manning one of the machine guns or engaging the Chinese in hand-to-hand combat. With ammunition almost gone, Miyamura covered the withdrawal of his surviving men before being seriously wounded and captured. Held captive for more than two years, news of the Medal of Honor he had been awarded was withheld for fear of retaliation by his captors. On Oct. 27, 1953, two months after his release from captivity, now Staff Sgt. Miyamura was presented his "secret" Medal of Honor by President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

The Korean War was a catalyst for change. The improvised, creeping mobilization, even though geared to a limited war, proved inadequate to support the rapid production of combat-ready units. The decision not to use all Organized Reserve Corps units led to the unplanned, often poor use of the Volunteer and Inactive Reserves. This practice led Congress to mandate that, in the future, reserve component units would be called up in national emergencies before any levies on the reserve manpower pools.

These and other lessons of the Korean War culminated in the Armed Forces Reserve Act of 1952. The law redefined the reserve components, stating that each service would have a Ready Reserve, a Standby Reserve and a Retired Reserve. The Organized Reserve Corps was renamed the Army Reserve. The Ready Reserve was to have a ceiling of 1.5 million members who could be called to active duty during wartime or any national emergency declared by Congress or the president. Members of the Standby and Ready Reserves could be tapped for active duty in cases of congressional declaration. Other provisions of the act further clarified the status of the Reserve and these provisions played an important role in future conflicts.

FROM THE COLD WAR TO THE GULF WAR AND BEYOND

In the 1960s, the Army Reserve stood ready to answer the Nation's call during the Berlin Crisis, the Cuban Missile Crisis and the Vietnam War. Only Vietnam resulted in an armed conflict and because of decisions made by the administration of President Lyndon B. Johnson, only a small Reserve mobilization was authorized, resulting in a call-up in 1968 of 42 Army Reserve units with fewer than 5,000 Soldiers. Of these, 35 units and 3,500 Soldiers deployed to Vietnam.

As U.S. involvement in Vietnam came to an end in the early 1970s, the draft was eliminated and the era of the All-Volunteer Force began. In 1973, the Department of Defense announced a new concept of national defense, the Total Force Policy. This policy called for smaller active forces backed up by reinvigorated, well-trained, well-equipped reserve forces. The Army Reserve was much in need of such reenergizing. Due to its non-use during the Vietnam War, it had been thoroughly neglected. Additionally, this same use of draftees instead of Reserve or National Guard troops had resulted in the commonly held belief that service in the reserve components was a dodge used to avoid going to Vietnam. Re-building the morale of its members would be another major challenge in the immediate post-Vietnam years.

That challenge was met. The Army — both the Active Army and the two reserve components — rebuilt and transformed itself after Vietnam. For the Army Reserve, this meant more use of its Soldiers, units and their capabilities. Greater use turned into greater reliance as the Army Reserve demonstrated what it could do.

Following the 1983 Grenada invasion, Army Reserve civil affairs Soldiers helped rebuild Grenada's infrastructure. In 1989, Army Reserve Soldiers participated in Operation Just Cause, the United States' intervention in Panama, with military police and civil affairs support.
The biggest deployment of Army Reserve Soldiers overseas since the Korean War took place in 1990–1991 with Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. More than 63,000 Soldiers from 647 units were activated to accomplish both continental U.S. and overseas missions. Thousands of Individual Ready Reserve Soldiers, Individual Mobilization Augmentees and 1,000 retirees volunteered or were ordered to active duty as well. In all, almost 84,000 Army Reserve Soldierss answered their country's call.

The Army Reserve paid a price for the liberation of Kuwait and the defeat of Iraq. An Iraqi Scud missile killed 28 Army Reserve men and women on February 25, 1991, and wounded almost 100 others. Thirteen of those killed in action and 43 of the wounded were from the 14th Quartermaster Detachment, giving this water purification unit from Greensburg, Pa., an 80 percent casualty rate. No other American or coalition unit in the war suffered such a high casualty rate.

When the new United States Army Reserve Command (USARC) became operational on October 1, 1992, 95 percent of all Army Reserve units came under its command (except special operations units, and units located in Alaska, the Pacific, and Europe). For the first time in the Army Reserve's history, command and control of these units resided with the Army Reserve itself.

In 1993, Army Reserve Soldiers participated in Operation Restore Hope, the Somalia relief expedition. They included more than 100 Army Reserve volunteers who made up the 711th Adjutant General Company (Provisional) (Postal). Other Army Reserve civil affairs and public affairs Soldiers also served in Somalia until U.S. Forces departed there in March 1994.

Army Reserve Soldiers took part in Operation Uphold Democracy in Haiti from 1995–1996. Among those who deployed was an 18-person team of judges and lawyers led by an Army Reserve major general who was also a New Jersey Superior Court judge. In Haiti, this team worked to review the Haitian judicial system, train Haitian judges and modernize the country's 19th Century legal code.

Since 1995, thousands of Army Reserve Soldiers have conducted peacekeeping operations in Bosnia and Kosovo, as well supporting those operations from

Army Reserve Historical Painting

Quan Loi, Vietnam, January 1969. The 391th Transportation Company returns fire when one of their trucks is disabled during a Viet Cong ambush. This Army Reserve unit from Augusta, Ga., was transporting ammunition and rations to the First Infantry Division near the Cambodian border. Between Septerm 1968 and July 1969, the 319th was ambushed seven times while hauling 92 tons of supplies more than 1.1 million miles. They suffered one casualty and received a meritorious unit citation and numerous individual awards. Forty-two Army Reserve units were mobilized in 1968 with 35 going to Vietnam

Photo: U.S. Army

U.S. military personnel examine the ruins of a warehouse being used as barracks that was hit by an Iraqi Scud missile on Feb. 25, 1991 during Operation Desert Storm. Twenty-eight Army Reserve Soldiers died in this attack. Thirteen of those killed, as well as 43 of the wounded, were from the 14th Quartermaster Detachment, a water purification unit. The 14th had an 80 percent casualty rate, the highest of any American of coalition unit of the Gulf War.

Hungary, Germany, and Italy. The Kosovo conflict resulted in a stateside mission in 1999 at the Fort Dix Army Reserve Installation in New Jersey. There, Army Reserve Soldiers led and were part of the Operation Provide Refuge Joint Task Force, giving relief and assistance to more than 4,000 ethnic Albanian refugees from Kosovo.

As the 20th Century ended, Army Reserve civil affairs Soldiers from the Hawaii-based 9th Regional Support Command provided support for the United Nations multinational force in East Timor in late 1999. Additionally, Soldiers of the Logistics Civil Augmentation Program (LOGCAP) Support Unit (LSU), a brand new unit just activated on October 16, 1999, also deployed to East Timor. They were tasked by U.S. Pacific Command to coordinate the replacement of military heavy-lift aircraft with civilian contract aircraft to transport refugees and distribute food, water and fuel. The LSU executed a $10 million contract with a civilian helicopter firm, freeing up U.S. Marine Corps helicopters and U.S. Navy ships for other missions.

THE FIRST WAR OF THE 21ST CENTURY

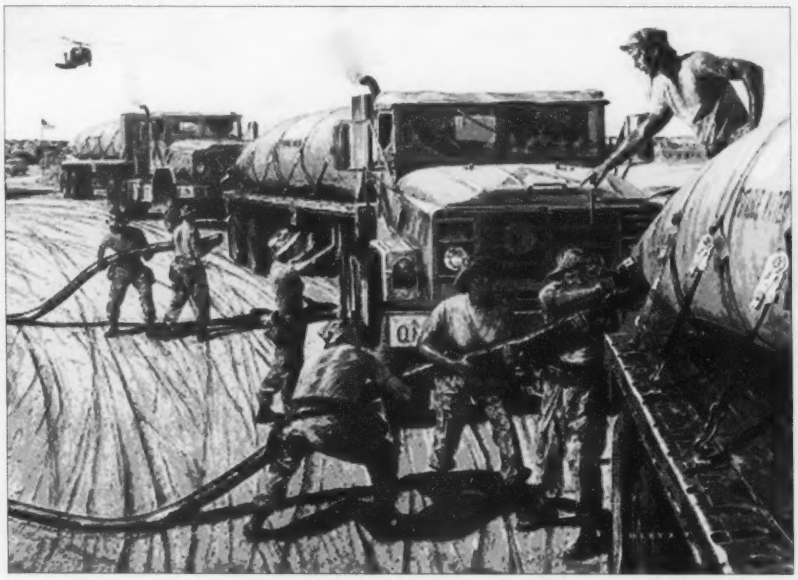
On September 11, 2001, terrorists hijacked four commercial airliners and crashed them into the World Trade Center in New York City, the Pentagon in Washington, DC, and a field in Pennsylvania. Thousands of Americans were killed.

Army Reserve men and women were on the front lines of this first war of the 21st century from its outset, with a number of Reserve Soldiers among the killed at the Pentagon and the World Trade Center.

"As the flames continued to be fought at the Pentagon and in New York, Army Reserve men and women went into action all across America," said Lt., Gen. Thomas J. Plewes, Chief of the Army Reserve from 1998 to 2002 (Lt. Gen. Plewes became the first three-star Chief of the Army Reserve on June 13, 2001. On September 11, 2001, he and his personal staff were inside the Pentagon when American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into the building.).

"Arriving at their places of duty," Plewes said, "they immediately started their missions: force protection and security at installations and facilities, intelligence and investigation support, training and training validation, headquarters augmentation and historical documentation, logistics and transportation operations. Whatever the National Command Authority needed the Army Reserve to do, we did it."

Highlighting the responsiveness of the Army Reserve to this national emergency was the example of the 311th



Army Reserve Historical Painting

The 316th Quartermaster Company distributes water at an XVIII Airborne Corps site in Central Saudi Arabia. The 316th, an Army Reserve unit from San Diego, Calif., distributed 8.4 million gallons of water during the Persian Gulf War and in support of Kurdish relief efforts in northern Iraq. Army Reserve Soldiers contributed significantly to the Total Army's success by providing the bulk of water purification and distribution, civil affairs support, enemy prisoner-of-war handling, postal work, petroleum handling, military history and pyschological operations. Other participating Army Reserve units included chemical decontamination, transportation, military police, maintenance and engineer units.

Army Reserve Historical Painting

Members of the 396th Combat Support Hospital receive a patient from a Norwegian Company during Task Force Eagle in Bosnia. The 396th, an Army Reserve unit from Washington state, treated more than 9,500 patients at the Blue Factory base in Tuzla, from October 1997 to April 1998. In addition to providing medical treatment, the 396th assisted in training medical personnel in the region and in coordinating mass casualty training exercies.

Quartermaster Company (Mortuary Affairs) from Aguadilla, Puerto Rico. Called upon almost immediately following the attack on the Pentagon, the first 85 Soldiers from this unit left home, conducted an overseas deployment and commenced its mortuary operations, sifting through tons of debris for human remains in the Pentagon's north parking lot, all in 72 hours. The 311th was at war for more than a week before the unit was officially mobilized.

By the end of 2001, there were 9,020 Army Reserve Soldiers who had been called up under the September 14 partial mobilization. Most were in support of Operation Noble Eagle, in defense of the American homeland (Operation Noble Eagle was changed in late 2007 to Operation Enduring Freedom — CONUS.). Of these, 7,384 were Troop Program Unit Soldiers from 273 units. The remaining 1,186 were Individual Mobilization Augmentees (IMAs) and from the Individual Ready Reserve. There were also about 2,000 Army Reserve Soldiers supporting operations in an other-than-mobilized status, such as for training, or as full-time support Active Guard Reserve (AGR) Soldiers.

Others were serving on the other side of the world. Less than a month after the attack on America, America struck back at the base of the attackers in Afghanistan. Within a few months, Afghanistan's repressive Taliban regime, which had supported and given sanctuary to the al Qaeda terrorists who had launched the 9-11 attacks, had been driven from power and, along with the foreign terrorists, were in hiding in the rugged south and east of Afghanistan. Army Reserve Soldiers contributed significantly to this victory.

Army Reserve public affairs Soldiers went into the mountains of eastern Afghanistan with the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) on Operation Anaconda. Army Reserve engineers improved facilities at Kandahar while medical Citizen-Soldiers treated casual-

Army Reserve Historical Painting

During Operation Iraqi Freedom, the 459th Engineer Company (Multi-Role Bridge Company), an Army Reserve unit from Bridgeport, West Virginia, lays an aluminum float ribbon bridge under enemy fire across the Diyala River southeast of Baghdad. The spearhead of the I Marine Expeditionary Force required the crossing in order to expand its dismounted infantry bridgehead with tank support before entering Baghdad. Other missions accomplished included bridging the Euphrates River and convoy security.

Sgt. Rachel A. Brune

Sgt. Justin Jacobs, of South Amherst, Ohio, and Spec. Keith Hawkins, of Columbus, Ohio, perform last minute pre-combat checks and inspections on their trailer. The two Soldiers are truck drivers with 454th Transportation Company, an Army Reserve unit from Delaware, Ohio.

ties at Bagram air base. Army Reserve civil affairs Soldiers operated throughout Afghanistan to help the Afghan people recover from decades of war.

In May 2002, Lt. Gen. James R. Helmly, a former Deputy Chief. Army Reserve, and former commander of the Operation Provide Refuge Joint Task Force at Fort Dix, became the Army Reserve's second three-star chief. Like his predecessors since 1992, he was also double-hatted, serving simultaneously as the Commanding General of U.S. Army Reserve Command.

On March 20, 2003, Operation Iraqi Freedom began, with Army Reserve Soldiers in action right from the beginning and fighting their way to Baghdad alongside their comrades-in-arms from the other U.S. Armed Forces and coalition allies. The 459th Engineer Company (Multi-Role Bridge Company), for example, built bridges across the Diyala and Euphrates Rivers under fire to support the I Marine Expeditionary Force's advance to Baghdad.

Although major combat operations in Iraq were declared to be over on May 1, 2003, combat did not cease. A difficult guerilla campaign continued, one waged by loyalists of Saddam Hussein's regime, Iraqi insurgents and foreign fighters. More American casualties were suffered following the end of major combat operations than were lost before May 1. Of the 22 Army Reserve Soldiers killed during Operation Iraqi Freedom from March to November 2003, only two were killed before May 1.

Not all of the Army Reserve's battles in the early 21st century were against armed foes. Nature was an equally tough adversary. In 2005, for example, Army Reserve Soldiers kept busy providing assistance to the victims of numerous natural disasters at home and abroad. Especially valuable were the Army Reserve helicopter units that provided assistance to the people of the U.S. Gulf Coast in September following Hurricane Katrina and to the people of Pakistan following a devastating earthquake in October.

As the Army Reserve ended its first century of service, it remained heavily committed to the continuing operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. In Afghanistan, Army Reserve Soldiers were decisively engaged in helping the emerging Afghan democracy. They served as part of the coalition forces building a 70,000-man strong Afghan National Army and helping the Afghans set up a modern defense establishment under the control of a democratically elected civilian government.

In Iraq, Army Reserve Soldiers continued to battle Iraqi insurgents while laying the groundwork for Iraq's security forces to take over this mission themselves. A key development in accelerating the training of the new Iraqi Army was the deployment of the 98th Division (Institutional Training) to Iraq in late 2004 to speed up the new Iraqi Army's training. This was the first time since the U.S. military began training Iraqi security forces that an Army Reserve unit took on this important mission.

The Army Reserve's only remaining ground combat unit served in Iraq from 2005–2006. The 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry, deployed there as part of the 29th Separate Infantry Brigade, Hawaii Army National Guard. The Army Reserve Soldiers of the 100th/442nd come from Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam and Saipan. In Iraq, they proudly upheld the heritage inherited from the original 100th Infantry Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team of World War II, the most decorated U.S. Army units of their size in American history. During its year in Iraq, four Soldiers from the battalion were killed and 45 wounded.

At the beginning of 2008, the number of Army Reserve Soldiers killed in both Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom had grown to 153. More than 1,250 had been wounded in action.

As operations continue in Iraq and Afghanistan and as new fronts open in the War against Terrorism, more casualties are to be expected. Pain and sorrow will still have to be borne by both Soldiers and their loved ones as the men and women of the Army Reserve do now and in the future what they have been doing so honorably and so well for a century — answering the nation's call to serve.

WHAT HAS CHANGED AND WHAT DOESN'T CHANGE

The Army Reserve that embarks on its second century in 2008 is one of its most battle-tested and experienced forces since its creation. More than 180,000

Army Reserve Warrior-Citizens have been called to duty since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, with more than 41,000 having been mobilized more than once.

The experience of the current Chief, Army Reserve, and Commanding General of U.S. Army Reserve Command, gives an indication of the level of increased service for Reserve Soldiers in recent times. On May 25, 2006, Lt. Gen. Jack C. Stultz became the third three-star chief and also the third chief to take up the mantle of Army Reserve leadership during the Global War on Terrorism. When he took on his new responsibilities, he did so as a veteran of Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq, of Operations Joint Endeavor/Joint Guard in the Balkans and of Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq and Kuwait.

"The role of the Army Reserve has transformed dramatically, from a Strategic Reserve to an Operational Force," Stultz said on the Army Reserve 99th birthday.

Some 25,000–30,000 Soldiers — from a force of about 190,000 — are mobilized routinely and deployed in 18–20 countries around the world, to include the combat zones of Iraq and Afghanistan, and in the United States.

Not only conceptually but throughout its first 100 years, the Army Reserve changed from a force that was a smaller mirror image of the Active Army to one that complemented the Total Force with combat support, combat service support and training capabilities. Many of these capabilities were and remain either exclusively or primarily in the Army Reserve.

What did not change, though, was the nature of its people. Today's Warrior-Citizens remain as dedicated, professional and courageous as yesterday's Citizen-Soldiers.

Spec. Jeremy Church of the 724th Transportation Company received the first Silver Star awarded to an Army Reserve Soldier in Iraq for battling insurgents and rescuing other Soldiers and civilians during an ambush on his convoy in April 2004. Staff Sgt. Jason Fetty, a 339th Combat Support Hospital Soldier attached to the 364th Civil Affairs Brigade, received the first Silver Star awarded to an Army Reserve Soldier in Afghanistan after hand-to-hand combat with a suicide bomber that foiled his attack on the Khost Hospital in February 2007.

They and their fellow Army Reserve comrades serving today show by their commitment and actions that they are worthy successors to the Organized Reserve Doughboys and G.I.s who preceded them. As the Army Reserve continues to evolve and transform throughout its next 100 years, it will do so, as it always has, in the capable hands of those men and women who choose to be "twice the citizen."

TODAY'S U.S. ARMY RESERVE: A READY FORCE

The Army Reserve is an integral part of the world's best Army. Army Reserve Soldiers form the backbone of our nation's

Sgt. Denise Schultz

Army Reserve Maj. William Wynn, Office of Military Cooperation-Afghanistan, guides in two U.S. Marine Corps CH-53 helicopters for a landing near Gardez, Afghanistan in September 2004.

military, applying specialized-skill rich services and civilian work experience to America's national security mission.

The Army Reserve provides a highly skilled, flexible force that supports the Army when and where it is needed with:

- **Combat Support**
- **Combat Service Support**
- **Peacekeeping**
- **Nation-building**
- **Civil Support**

Since 1908, Army Reserve Soldiers have trained and served with excellence through World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Cold War, Panama, the Persian Gulf, Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia, Kosovo, the Iraq War and most recently, the Global War on Terrorism.

- Since 1990, the Army Reserve has been deployed to support every American military operation, including peacekeeping and humanitarian missions.
- Army Reserve Soldiers — or Citizen-Soldiers — bring specialized civilian-acquired capabilities to the operational force. Some civilian careers include medical professional, lawyer, teacher, community planner, elected official, business owner, coach, engineer, law enforcement officer, civil affairs specialist and student.
- Up to half of the Soldiers who join the Army Reserve each year have prior Active Duty experience in the Army, Navy, Air Force or Marines.
- The Army Reserve is composed of three groups of Soldiers — the Selected Reserve, the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) and the Retired Reserve.
- Almost 40 percent of Army Reserve Soldiers are minorities, the highest of any branch of the U.S. military.
- Women are eligible for the vast majority of the jobs in the Army Reserve, and almost one quarter of Army Reserve Soldiers are women., and
- Nearly half of Army Reserve Soldiers are between 17 and 29 years of age, and 49 percent are between 30 and 49 years of age.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Greg Pierot

Sgt. Jamie Rivas, from the 312th Tactical Psychological Operations Company, hands out an issue of the "Baghdad Now" newspaper to an Iraq lady in the Rashid district of Baghdad. The 312th is an Army Reserve unit based in Upper Marlboro, Md.

ROLE WITHIN THE ARMY

- The Army cannot function effectively without the Army Reserve, which provides about half of the Army's combat support and a quarter of the Army's mobilization base expansion capability.
- At 5.3 percent of the Army's budget, the Army Reserve provides a cost-effective solution to the Army's need for specialized capabilities.
- Two-thirds of the Army's medical capabilities come from the Army Reserve.
- 96 percent of all civil affairs forces in the military reside in the Army and 93 percent of those are in the Army Reserve.
- 66 percent of all psychological operations forces in the military are in the Army Reserve.

The Army Reserve contributes to the Army's total force by providing...

100 PERCENT OF THE ARMY'S:

- Internment Resettlement Brigades
- Judge Advocate General Units (Legal Support Organizations)
- Medical Groups
- Railway Units
- Training & Exercise Divisions

MORE THAN TWO-THIRDS OF THE ARMY'S:

- Civil Affairs Units
- Psychological Operations Units
- Combat Support Hospitals
- Medical Brigades
- Theater Signal Commands
- Expeditionary Sustainment Commands
- Internment Resettlement Battalions
- Petroleum Battalions
- Petroleum Groups
- Military History Units

NEARLY HALF OF THE ARMY'S:

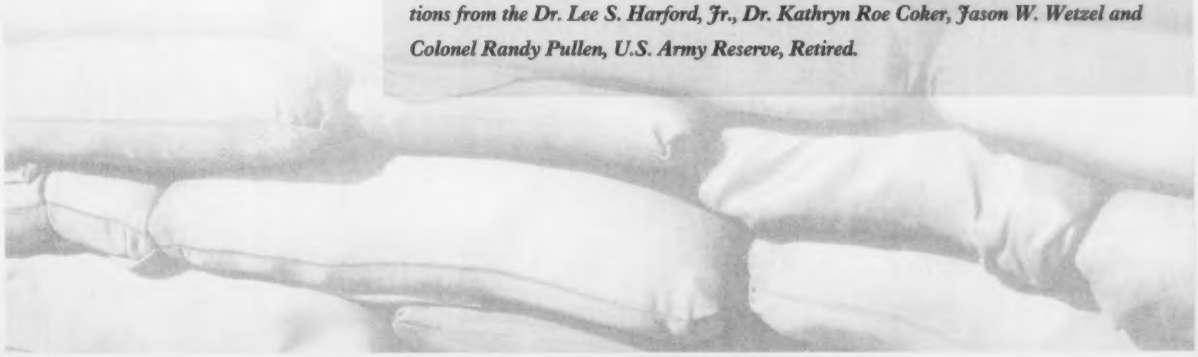
- Movement Control Battalions
- Chemical Brigades
- Chemical Battalions
- Adjutants General Units (Personnel Service Delivery Redesign)
- Transportation Command
- Terminal Battalions
- Public Affairs Units
- Army Bands
- Finance Units
- Chaplains
- Water Purification Companies

STATS AT A GLANCE

- 360: The number of doctors who started the Army Reserve in 1908.
- More than 26,000: The total number of Army Reserve Soldiers serving on active duty today in support of current operations.
- More than 19,000: The number of Army Reserve Soldiers currently serving abroad.
- 7,000: The number of Army Reserve Soldiers supporting homeland defense missions at training centers, mobilization sites and medical centers.
- Approximately 170,000: The number of Army Reserve Soldiers mobilized in support of the Global War on Terrorism since 9/11.
- 98: The percent of Army Reserve units that have provided mobilized Soldiers in Iraq, Afghanistan and 18 other countries.
- Approximately 42,000: The number of Army Reserve Soldiers who have served on multiple deployments.
- More than 140: The number of Army Reserve Soldiers who have lost their lives during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.
- 100th: The Army Reserve Anniversary being commemorated across America on April 23rd, 2008 — marking a century of service by America's Citizen-Soldiers.

Additional information about the Army Reserve's 100th Anniversary can be found online at **www.armyreserve.army.mil.**

This version of the history of the United States Army Reserve was written with contributions from the Dr. Lee S. Harford, Jr., Dr. Kathryn Roe Coker, Jason W. Wetzel and Colonel Randy Pullen, U.S. Army Reserve, Retired.



CHIEFS OF THE U.S. ARMY RESERVE

Rank	Name	Date Took Office	Date Left Office
Lt. Gen.	Jack C. Stultz*	25 May 2006	present
Lt. Gen.	James R. Helmly*	5 May 2002	19 May 2006
Lt. Gen.	Thomas J. Plewes*	25 May 1998	4 May 2002
Maj. Gen.	Max Baratz*	1 Feb 1994	24 May 1998
Maj. Gen.	Roger W. Sandler*	1 Aug 1991	31 Jan 1994
Maj. Gen.	William F. Ward Jr.*	1 Dec 1986	31 Jul 1991
Brig. Gen.	Harry J. Mott, III	1 Aug 1986	30 Nov 1986
Maj. Gen.	William R. Berkman	1 Jun 1979	31 Jul 1986
Maj. Gen.	Henry Mohr	1 Jun 1975	31 May 1979
Maj. Gen.	J. Milnor Roberts	1 Jun 1971	31 May 1975
Maj. Gen.	William J. Sutton	1 Sep 1963	31 May 1971
Maj. Gen.	Frederick M. Warren	1 Sep 1959	31 Aug 1963
Maj. Gen.	Ralph A. Palladino	1 Aug 1957	31 May 1959
Brig. Gen.	Philip F. Lindeman	19 Nov 1953	31 Jul 1957
Brig. Gen.	Hugh M. Milton, II	24 Feb 1951	18 Nov 1953
Maj. Gen.	James B. Cress	1 Jan 1950	31 Jan 19517
Brig. Gen.	Wendell Westover	1 Dec 1947	14 Nov 1949
Brig. Gen.	Edward S. Bres	15 Oct 1945	30 Nov 1947
Brig. Gen.	Edward W. Smith	16 Sep 1942	14 Oct 1945
Brig. Gen.	Frank E. Lowe	5 Jun 1941	10 Aug 1942
Brig. Gen.	John H. Hester	21 Jun 1940	23 Mar 1941
Brig. Gen.	Charles F. Thompson	16 Sep 1938	9 Jun 1940
Brig. Gen.	Edwin S. Hartshorn	1 Jul 1935	15 Sep 1938
Brig. Gen.	Charles D. Herron	1 Jul 1930	30 Jun 1935
Col.	David L. Stone	5 Mar 1927	30 Jun 1930
Col.	Stanley H. Ford	1 Oct 1926	10 Feb 1927
Lt. Col.	Frederick B. Ryons	15 Aug 1926	30 Sep 1926
Lt. Col.	John C. Pegram	31 Dec 1925	14 Aug 1926
Col.	Douglas Potts	1 Aug 1924	30 Dec 1925
Maj.	Walter O. Boswell	2 Jul 1923	31 Jul 1924
Maj.	Charles F. Thompson	12 Jul 1923	1 Jul 1923

* Also served as commanding general, US Army Reserve Command.

COMMAND CHIEF WARRANT OFFICERS

CW5 JAMES E. THOMPSON (OCAR)	SEP 07 – PRESENT
CW5 DAVE KOCH (OCAR)	FEB 04 – SEP 07
CW5 DON GARLOW (OCAR)	JUL 02 – JAN 04
CW5 GEORGE HOLLAND (USARC)	JUN 03 – FEB 06

COMMAND SERGEANTS MAJOR

LEON E. CAFFIE	AUG 06 – PRESENT
MICHELE S. JONES	OCT 02 – AUG 06
ALEX LACKEY	OCT 99 – OCT 02
JACK RUCYNSKI	FEB 96 – SEP 99
COLLIN YOUNGER	SEP 91 – JAN 96
DOUGLAS E. MURRAY	OCT 86 – AUG 91
EDWARD REILLY	SEP 85 – SEP 86
CORNELIUS BOYKIN	JUN 80 – AUG 85
DONALD COLUMBO	SEP 77 – MAY 80
WILLIAM FOLEY	MAY 75 – AUG 77

DEPARTMENTS

NEWS YOU CAN USE: BLOGS

USEFUL BLOGS...

http://gazingattheflag.blogspot.com/

http://militaryspot.com/militaryblogs.htm

www.americanranger.blogspot.com

"I'm proud to be a veteran of both Vietnam and Operation Iraqi Freedom and I've been an Army Ranger since 1970. In civilian life, I'm a police officer in Central Florida."

— Sgt. 1st Class Chuck Grist

AND WEBSITES

www.armyreserve.mil

www.segs.fit.edu/es/ftlee

www.MilSpouse.org

www.MyArmyLifeToo.com

www.ArmyReserve100th.org

WARRIOR-CITIZEN MAGAZINE WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Send us photos, stories, and blog sites on your unit's activities to:

Paul Adams, Editor
Warrior-Citizen Magazine

usarcmag@usar.army.mil

LOGISTICS OFFICERS DON NEW BRANCH INSIGNIA

What is it? The "Logistics" branch will be the newest branch of the Army for commissioned officers, officially established on 1 January 2008 by General Order of the Secretary of the Army. This branch will be comprised of logistics officers in the rank of CPT-COL and replaces the Functional Area 90 (Multifunctional Logistician) program. Establishment of the Logistics branch fully supports the modular Army and further emphasizes the need for multifunctional Army logistics officers. A MILPER message was released in December, further explaining implementation guidance.

What is happening? Effective January 2008, all officers in the rank of CPT-COL of the Ordnance, Quartermaster, or Transportation branches who have completed the Captains Career Course will become Logistics branch officers. This change will occur across all components of the Army.

What does this mean for officers? For lieutenants entering the Army in FY 08 and beyond, they will begin their careers as Ordnance, Quartermaster, or Transportation officers. Their focus is to become technically and tactically proficient in these basic branch specialties. Upon promotion to captain and completion of either the Combined Logistics Captains Career Course (CLC3) or the Reserve Component-Captains Career Course, they will automatically convert to the Logistics branch. Logistics branch officers will transition from a functional branch focus, to a broader focus on logistics as a whole. Between their 4th–9th years of service, they will gain experiences and develop themselves as logisticians, as well as providing specific functional expertise (secondary AOC) to their units when required. As officers move from the company-grade to field-grade level, they will continue to broaden their experiences not only as logisticians at the tactical level, but also as supply chain, maintenance, and distribution enterprise managers of organizations with global impact, such as the Army Materiel Command and the Defense Logistics Agency.

Officer personnel managers will be focused on getting officers experienced in multifunctional logistics, while at the same time alternating them into assignments where they will work and keep up their skills in their secondary AOC. Although officers will hold both multifunctional and functional positions throughout their career, officers should expect to have more Logistics branch assignments and fewer assignments in their secondary specialty. This becomes more pronounced as the officer rises in rank.

Officers will wear the Logistics branch insignia (available now in Military Clothing Sales stores) along with the regimental crest associated with their secondary specialty AOC.

For more information, go to the Logistics branch website. **http://www.cascom.army.mil/cascombasic2/publicsite/logbranch/index.htm.**

Spec. Mekonya Cheefus

Maj. Gen. Alan D. Bell, deputy commanding general of the U.S. Army Reserve Command, pins the new logistics branch insignia onto Maj. Charles Birdsong, USARC G4, XO. This newest branch of the Army was officially established on Jan. 1, 2008.

BECOME A "SUPER LOGISTICIAN" WITH NEW TLOG COURSE

By Ken Cox
Theater Logistics Studies
Program Course Director
Army Logistics Management College

The U.S. Army Logistics Management College (ALMC) developed a new course, the Theater Logistics Studies Program (TLog), to replace the long-established Logistics Executive Development Course (LEDC). Why the change? Because, in the current environment of persistent conflict and Army and joint transformation, the Army must develop a cadre of logisticians who are equipped with the operational and strategic-level tools needed to sustain the Modular Force and solve larger scale theater-level logistics problems.

TLog is designed to fill that need. Its goal is to develop agile, innovative logisticians who have the decision analysis, logistics knowledge, and other skill sets to find solutions for complex operational logistics challenges. TLog will provide students with instruction in distributed theater operations, joint logistics planning, regional economic considerations, capabilities and requirements determination for the force mix and how to address gaps in the entire DTLOMSPF (doctrine, training, leader development, organization, materiel, Soldier support, personnel, facilities) spectrum, contracting, data analysis and application, and strategic and logistics policy.

TLog offers an intense combination of logistics study and hands-on exercises and case studies for majors and senior captains designated for planning positions within the theater sustainment commands (TSCs), expeditionary sustainment commands (ESCs), and corps and Army G–4 (logistics) shops. The course broadens the individual's logistics foundation — developed through previous education, training, and personal experiences — by providing a comprehensive military supply chain educational experience within the overall Department of Defense logistics system.

Instruction is hands-on. Students grapple with a theater-level campaign plan that begins with a theater-opening scenario in which they must work through planning for reception, staging, and onward movement. Case studies are introduced to further challenge and expand the students' minds in areas such as providing disaster relief, resourcing unit rotations, and setting up tracking and interrogator networks for cargo or unit tracking. Presentations by logistics leaders from the Army, the Department of Defense, and industry enhance the learning process by touching on subjects such as distributed operations, contractors accompanying the force, Army prepositioned stocks, civil support, reconstitution, theater distribution, supply chain management, outsourcing and reverse logistics. Visits to Letterkenny Army Depot, Pa., Defense Distribution Center, Susquehanna, Pa., and the aerial port of embarkation at Dover Air Force Base, Del., complement the classroom time and provide students with a visual representation of the sustaining base that supports the armed forces in the field.

The Army must develop a cadre of logisticians who are equipped with the operational and strategic-level tools needed to sustain the Modular Force and solve larger scale theater-level logistics problems.

TLog also has a cooperative degree program with the Florida Institute of Technology (FIT). TLog students are able to enroll at FIT and earn a Master of Science degree in logistics management after a year of study at Fort Lee, Va. They may also pursue that degree using distance learning.

The pilot TLog course began in August 2007 with a diverse class of majors and senior captains (active component and reserve component), international officers, and Department of the Army civilians. The lessons learned from the pilot course have been used to update and revise the course.

Human Resources Command is evaluating TLog for the establishment of a skill identifier (SI) that will mark TLog graduates for assignments into those key support operations and planning positions at theater and above levels. TLog's long-term effectiveness will be ensured by having selected graduates who have served in theater logistics assignments return to ALMC as instructors to help train and educate their successors. Establishing the SI will allow the Army Human Resources Command to effectively track graduates to facilitate use of their knowledge, skills and attributes.

An Associate TLog (ATLog) program is also under development as a conversion from the Associate LEDC. It involves completion of two resident two-week phases at ALMC, three distance learning phases on line, and the Joint Course on Logistics. This course will also provide the SI once approved. The first pilot phase will be conducted this year and the entire course will be available starting in FY09. The latest status on TLog and ATLog is available on the ALMC web site: **http://www.almc.army.mil/**.

TLog is a much-needed course that prepares logisticians for macro-level problems and introduces them to the organizations and skill sets available to help solve them. The current operating tempo and the shortage of logistics officers make sending them to the course a challenge. With two TLog courses each year, commanders can pick some of their best and brightest majors and senior captains and send them to a future course. Identify your best candidates now for the next TLog iteration, and you will get back a "super" logistician.

[TLOG] THEATER LOGISTICS STUDIES PROGRAM

FOCUS:

The logistics planner/executor/problem-solver at the operational level for Theater and Expeditionary Sustainment Commands

APPROACH:

- ☐ Theater/Operational logistics focus
- ☐ Joint Logistics framework up front — builds to Theater Scenario with mini-case studies to apply logistics problem solving
- ☐ Logistics Operators, Roles/Interface/Visibility: e.g., AMC (Army), DLA (Defense), TRANSCOM (Joint) and Industry
- ☐ Pre-deployment — RSO&I — Sustainment & Stability Operations — Redeployment
- ☐ Common Teaching Scenario
- ☐ Guided Experiential Learning
- ☐ Guest Expert Lectures/Guided
- ☐ Discussions/Reading Program/Field Trips/Practical Exercises and Analysis Briefings

ENDSTATE:

To provide an unmatched logistics education that makes TLog graduates highly sought-after assets (problem solvers) in the field for both the near and long-term.

12 HOURS OF GRADUATE CREDIT ACCEPTED BY FLORIDA TECH (FIT)

If interested, check out http://www.segs.fit.edu/es/ftlee

SOURCE: Army Logistics Management College, Fort Lee, VA

RESERVE COMPONENTS NATIONAL SECURITY COURSE

COURSE CONTENT

- National Security Strategy
- Resourcing for National Security Strategy
- Regional Briefs
- Informational Technology and Security
- Homeland Security
- Political-Military Simulation Exercises
- Diplomacy
- The Legislative Process
- The Legal Aspects of The Long War
- Press and National Security

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Reserve Components National Security Course (RCNSC) is a two-week seminar offered to senior officers and non-commissioned officers (E8-E9) of the U.S. Reserve Components, allied officers, and select civilians working in national security. The RCNSC is designed to lay a foundation for students moving on to joint command management and staff responsibilities in a multinational, intergovernmental, or joint national security setting. The curriculum consists of lectures, panel discussions, seminars, on-site visits, and a simulation exercise dealing with national security policy and defense resource management. The presenters are faculty members of the National War College, the Industrial College of the Armed Forces (ICAF), the Information Resource Management College (IRMC), and other distinguished speakers.

NATIONAL CRISIS RESPONSE EXERCISE

The exercise provides an experience in national decision-making that identifies and applies the instruments of national power in support of national interest. It calls for the application of a wide range of political, economic, military, diplomatic, and social measurements to advance national objectives, emphasizing joint and combined operations.

For more information, go to: www.ndu.edu/jrac

AR SLRP STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT

The Army Reserve will implement a new Soldier self-service web site for the Student Loan Repayment Program (SLRP) on 1 February 2008. The web site is part of the Web-Enabled Education Benefit System (WEBS) where a variety of educational programs including Tuition Assistance, REAP, MGIB and now SLRP, are accessible to Soldiers. Soldiers may access WEBS by visiting **https://rcms.ocar.army.pentagon.mil/Education** and using their AKO user ID and password. After logging on to WEBS, Soldiers should select the "My Loan Repayment Program Home Page" link.

Effective 1 February 2008, units are not responsible to certify DD 2475s or forward SLRP claims to the USAR Pay Center (UPC). Soldiers will use the SLRP web site to print DD Form 2475s to initiate their annual loan repayment application, manage their loan information, inquire on the status of payments, or view information on the SLRP. Beginning 1 April 2008, the SLRP web site will be the only acceptable mechanism for Soldiers to initiate their SLRP payments. The USAR Pay Center will not accept payment claims from other than the web site after 31 March 2008.

The web site receives information on SLRP eligible Soldiers from Recruit Quota System (REQUEST) and Retention Management System (RMS). Newly eligible Soldiers will receive an AKO email prompting them to visit the web site and record their loan information. Beginning 1 February 2008, Soldiers who are within 60 days of their SLRP anniversary date will receive an AKO email prompting them to visit the web site to initiate their SLRP claim. The SLRP web site contains an on-line user's guide and a function for the user to submit questions and inquiries. A copy of the user's guide is also available from the G-8 web page on the USARC Intranet at **https://usarcintra/dcscompt.www/SOTeam/SOTeam-C/New%20Web/Reserve%20Pay/dcs_g8_Ref.htm.**

BCT SOLDIERS GET MORE TIME FOR PT, BASIC RIFLE MARKSMANSHIP

By Chris Rasmussen/The Leader

FORT JACKSON, S.C. *(TRADOC News Service, Jan. 17, 2007)* — The first Fort Jackson battalion to make the switch from nine to 10 weeks of Basic Combat Training is reporting a seamless changeover.

All Army BCT installations officially made the shift to 10 weeks Nov. 2. At Fort Jackson, three companies in 3rd Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment were the first to make the change.

"The transition to the 10-week BCT has gone smoothly with no major issues," said Lt. Col. Reginald Cotton, commander, 3rd Bn., 34th Inf. Reg. "So far we have seen no real issues."

The U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, which oversees BCT, will revert back to the nine-week program for all cycles March 21 to accommodate the anticipated 2008 summer surge. After that, Fort Jackson will conduct 10-week training across the board.

"We have a little more time to spend with them on rifle marksmanship and physical training," said 1st Sgt. Lawrence Coleman, former acting command sergeant major, 3rd Bn., 34th Inf. Reg. "In the past we have had some issues at the end of the cycle with PT and rifle marksmanship and this will allow us to spend more time on those issues."

The increase is the first change in length since 1998, when BCT increased from eight weeks to nine. Despite the additional time, the number of Warrior tasks and battle drills will remain unchanged.

"No new tasks were added for the additional week, which I feel was the right call to make," Cotton said. "It allows for extra time on the range, additional PT and advanced first-aid training."

"The main advantage is that it allows drill sergeants an extra week to concentrate on those tasks that they feel the Soldiers may need some reinforcement training," he said.

Col. Kevin Shwedo, Fort Jackson's deputy commanding officer, said the installation can support the extra week of training added to the calendar.

"It may come at the expense of some of our leadership having to go with back-to-back rotations, or more, because we understand that we are getting ready to put America's sons and daughters in harm's way. We would rather sacrifice some personal time to give them that experience."

Staff Sgt. Dennis J. Henry Jr.

Basic Training Soldiers at Fort Jackson negotiate an obstacle on the confidence course. Army basic training is ten weeks in length and is located at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

ARMY RESERVE CHINOOKS CONDUCT HIGH-ALTITUDE SEARCH-AND-RESCUE TRAINING ON MOUNT RAINIER

By Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Coon
Public Affairs Office
70th Regional Readiness Command

MOUNT RAINIER, Wash. — Mount Rainier towers 14,000 feet above Puget Sound, beckoning thousands of adventurous climbers, daring them to reach its summit. Not all climbers achieve this quest because of the treacherous climbing conditions and extreme weather changes Mount Rainier has to offer. A few times a year, an Army Reserve Chinook helicopter unit and Mount Rainier National Park Rescue Climbers are called out to conduct Search-and-Rescue (SAR) missions for lost or injured climbers.

To reach missing or stranded climbers above 8000 feet, the National Park calls on Army Reserve Soldiers from Company A, 5th Battalion, 159th Aviation Regiment, Fort Lewis, Wash. and their CH-47 Chinook helicopters to help in the search and rescue.

"The unit has been working with the Mount Rainier National Park Service conducting high-altitude search-and-rescue missions since 1990," said Maj. William Wynn, the unit's commander.

On clear sunny day in August, with Mount Rainier in a forgiving mood, the Chinook air crew and National Park Rescue Climbers conducted a SAR training mission on the mountain's north-side.

This day's training mission was to be just like a real world mission. After picking up the rescue climbers at Kautz Helibase, the Chinook flew to a site where a 160-pound dummy was used to represent an injured climber.

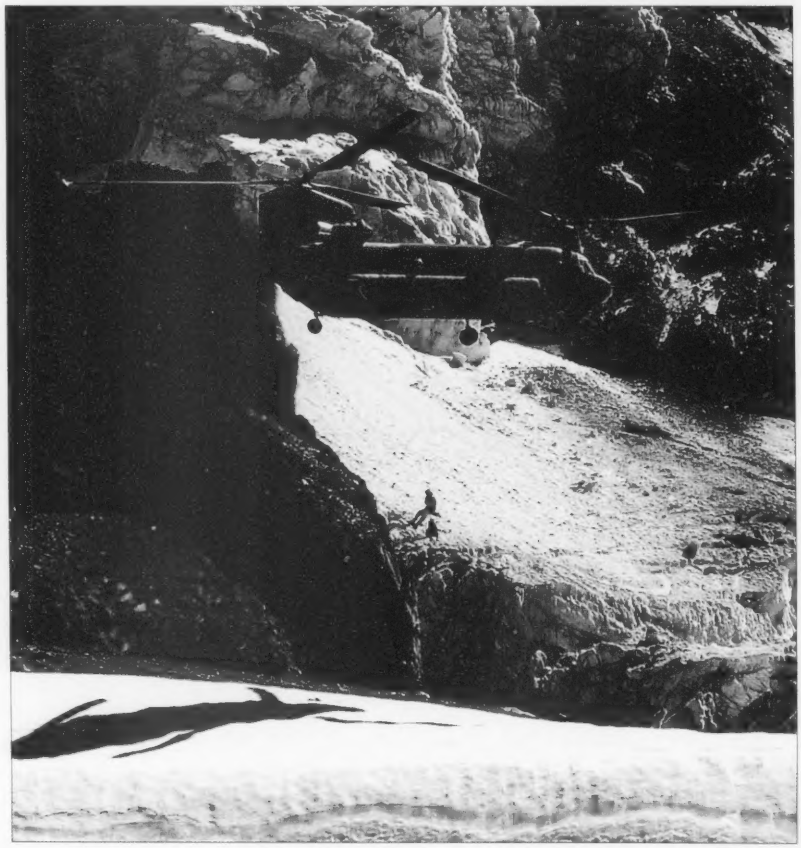
"We are going to take some of our skilled climbing rangers and enact a scenario at about 9000 feet where we will insert our rescue personnel, give them the supplies and material they need on the ground, and then extract the patient and our people," said Mike Carney, air mission advisor, Mount Rainier National Park Service.

The Chinook pilots positioned the aircraft hovering about 100 feet above the mountain side. Aircrews in the back of the helicopter used a winch and cable system with a jungle penetrator attached to lower the rescue climbers to the mountain.

Continuing the rescue as if the dummy was a real climber, the rescue climbers placed the dummy in a sleeping bag for protection against the helicopter's prep wash, and then secured it onto a litter, a metal stretcher used to carry injured climbers.

Flight engineer Sgt. 1st Class Stephen Rhoads, and Cpl. Anthony Horrace, worked together to raise the litter, and then the rescuers, taking care to raise the litter and rescue climbers through the small hatch in the bottom of the helicopter.

About 10,000 people attempt to climb Mount Rainier between May and



Maj. Hillary Luton

Soldiers of Company A, 5th Battalion, 159th Aviation Regiment, along with rescue workers from the Mount Rainier National Park Service, perform simulated rescue operations on Mount Rainier. A rescue worker is lowered down from a CH-47D Chinook helicopter.

September. Even during the summer months, the mountain weather can deteriorate quickly, causing treacherous conditions for injured climbers and for the rescue crews trying to reach them.

"It can be a pretty hostile and unforgiving environment," said Wynn.

On average Mount Rainier will see 20–30 search-and-rescue missions a year, and not all of them call for the Chinooks to conduct high-altitude rescues. However, when they do occur they tend to become intense, complex high-altitude missions, using complex rescue resources, technical mountain rescue personnel, and involve flying in bad or windy weather.

"When you're doing high-altitude search-and-rescues, you're mixing the worst elements that you're not used to doing all the time or day-to-day," said Mike Gauthier, supervisory climbing ranger, Mount Rainier National Park Service. "We can't afford a full-time helicopter or have a helicopter dedicated to this mission all the time, so working with the Army provides us with something we will never have."

When the park service learns of an injured or missing climber, they must complete a notification process to mobilize support from the Chinooks.

"We give a heads up to Fort Lewis, letting them know we are making this request and they start working their side of the street," said Mike Carney, air mission advisor, Mount Rainier National Park Service.

When the call comes in from the Park Service, the air crew preps the Chinook dedicated for the SAR missions. The Chinook will usually be en route to or standing by at Kautz Helibase on Mount Rainier awaiting approval for the rescue.

"When they receive their mission number, we're sitting here ready to go 20 minutes out," said Carney.

While at Kautz Helibase, the air crews conduct face-to-face meetings with park rangers to receive updated mountain weather conditions, SAR mission details and to pick up the rescue climbers.

The Chinook air crews have been called out only twice so far this season to rescue lost or injured climbers. Fortunately, no climbers have been killed; one mission was aborted after the climber was found safe, and on the second rescue they airlifted an injured climber with a dislocated shoulder from 11,000 feet.

Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Coon

Pilots from Company A, 5th Battalion, 159th Aviation Regiment, steady their CH-47 Chinook helicopter as a Mount Rainier National Park Rescue Climber secures a training dummy representing an injured climber needing to be airlifted off the side of Mount Rainier.

Trying to conduct a SAR mission on the side of mountain and with ever changing conditions poses challenges not only to rescue climbers, but also the air crews battling turbulent winds in updrafts and down drafts. Air crews must wear oxygen masks because of the high altitude.

The unit uses some of its most experienced pilots while conducting SAR missions. Chief Warrant Officer 4 Bob Agee, a pilot trainer for the unit, has been flying Chinook helicopters since the Vietnam War and has over 20 years of SAR experience. Chief Warrant Officer 4 Scott Salkovics is another pilot with many years of experience flying Chinooks, but his experience also includes being a skilled mountain climber.

The type of training air crews are doing on Mount Rainier will apply to their work they have to do on other high altitude missions in the United States or in Iraq or Afghanistan.

"Operating the winch is not a war task we do every day. If we do have to retrieve downed aviators when overseas or rescue ground support personnel, this is a good opportunity for us to train on skills that carry right over to needs we will see when in theater," said Rhoads.

The benefit for the public is seeing two federal agencies working together performing a public service.

"It is a win-win for Army Reserve and the Park Service because of the valuable training we receive on high-altitude search-and-rescues," Rhoads added.

Most of the Army Reserve air crews and the National Park rescue climbers are volunteers who risk their lives to save injured or lost climbers in treacherous and hazardous conditions on the mountain. The National Park Service is very concerned about the safety of climbers. Mount Rainer can be an unforgiving mountain. Climbers trying to reach its summit must be prepared for adverse and challenging conditions. The Chinook helicopter is not a safety net for climbers looking for a free ride home, but another tool the Park Service can use during emergency rescue operations.

O CANADA!

By. Spec. Mekonya Cheefus
Army Reserve Public Affairs

The Army Reserve places a priority on retaining Warrior-Citizens after their mandatory service obligation (MSO) is fulfilled. The value these mature, trained and ready, skilled-rich Soldiers bring to the total force cannot be overlooked. The AGR program offers Soldiers who complete their service obligation an opportunity to continue serving on a full-time status and contribute to the mission of the Reserve Component.

The U.S. Military Personnel Exchange Program (MPEP) is a rare opportunity for anyone in the AGR program, or activated National Guard or Reserve Soldier. As a two year assignment with possible extension of up one year, the opportunities for career enhancement are endless.

Courtesy Photo

Maj. Eric Robinson (third from left) served as the Senior Provincial Reconstruction Team Observer Controller Trainer at the Canadian Maneuver Training Center, Canadian Forces Base Wainwright in Nov. 2006.

MPEP is a mutually established personnel exchange program between U.S. Army personnel and the Army personnel of other nations. The goal is to foster a mutually beneficial exchange of experiences, professional knowledge, and doctrine to the maximum extent possible within existing policies. According to AR 614-10, it encourages the mutual confidence and respect necessary to enable harmonious relationships to exist between the U.S. Army and the armies of other nations. At the same time, it provides a challenging and interesting duty for U.S. Army officers and career-enlisted personnel.

"This was a unique assignment because it definitely enhanced my professional development and career. It gave me a different outlook on how other foreign military governments operate on a daily basis," said Maj. Eric Robinson who was assigned to work with the Canadian Army Reserves in 2005 as the Senior Provincial Reconstruction Team Observer Controller in Ottawa.

Exchange personnel are given meaningful and responsible assignments commensurate with their grade and qualifications. They are integrated into the host organization as though they belonged to the army to which they are assigned. A Memorandum of Agreement or MOA outlines the general conditions applicable to the exchange of personnel for that particular program.

Robinson was responsible for monitoring all the collective training activities that supported task forces going to Afghanistan and also any other training exercises in Ottawa.

"What I did observe is that they carry out business the same way we do. One major difference is that they don't have as much personnel as we have. In the U.S. Army we are at about 400,000. In the Canadian Army, they only have about 19,500 active and about 16,500 Reserve. So it is very crucial that they identify people for various exercises because they have personnel density issues. So right now, they are just as stretched as we are in terms of military support to other operations. So what's happening is they're starting to bring in more joint services solutions just like we are," said Robinson.

Due to the nature of his responsibilities, Robinson was able to travel throughout Europe and Canada on a semi-regular basis. He also learned a lot about his Reserve counterparts located north of the border as well as benefits provided to Soldiers. Reservists in Canada only receive about half of what an Army Reservist in U.S. does in terms of benefits. As a result, the Canadian Army loses many Soldiers to their booming economy due to many natural resources.

"The ones who do stay do it for the same reasons we do, for the dedication to country and duty," said Robinson.

The Army Reserve is no longer a strategic reserve element. Soldiers must be provided more joint education and training opportunities that offer an increase in the AGR pool of multi-national experience as well as foster mutual confidence with other nations.

"The people we work with may not necessarily wear the same uniform or speak the same language as we do but they are our coalition partners, said Robinson, "we as Army Reservists should get to train with these people before we go to war so we already have a relationship when we do get into theatre of operations.".

210TH RSG UNIT ASSISTS RUSSIANS AT TORGAU

Capt. Anthony John

Brig. Gen. David S. Elmo, commanding general, 1st Mission Support Command, Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico vigorously shakes the hand of Russian Colonel Somolyuk, Brigade Commander of an infantry regiment that worked closely with the 210th Regional Support Group in their logistical support mission for the bilateral U.S.-Russian exercise, TORGAU 2007, held at Hohenfels, Germany. Col. Somoluk expressed to General Elmo his genuine respect for the professionalism that Col. Hector Lopez's 210th RSG Soldiers displayed during TORGAU 2007.

YABUCOA BENEFITS FROM ARMY TRAINING

Sgt. 1st Class John Gonzalez

Soldiers with the 448th Engineer Battalion are spending their two-weeks of annual Active Duty Training helping to clean and dredge the accumulated soil, vegetation, and debris from an existing creek in Yabucoa, Puerto Rico.

246TH AND 311TH HONOR FELLOW WARRIORS

Photo: U.S. Army

Under the watchful eye of Jay Bevard, Director, U.S. Army Memorial Affairs Activity-Europe, Landstuhl, Germany, Sgt. Orlando Rosa, 246th QM, tucks in the stars as Pfc. Jose Roman, 311th QM, holds the colors. On the other end, Spec. Carlos Irizarry, 311th QM, tucks in the stripes as Staff Sgt. Eric Peña, 246th QM, ensures that the colors remain horizontally straight during a practice placement of the U.S. flag. Being the only two remaining Mortuary Affairs units in the Army Reserve, the 246th and the 311th Quartermaster Company (Mortuary Affairs) honors our Warrior Ethos — "I Will Never Leave A Fallen Comrade."

Capt. Anthony John

Lt. Col. Hector Agosto Rivera, Logistics Officer in Charge, 1st Military Service Command, explains the role that the 1st MSC and the 166th Regional Support Group will play in the upcoming multi national Tradewinds 2008 to a team of key participants as Dominican Republic's Brig. Gen. Francisco Gil Ramirez, Commandante de la Primera Brigada de Infanterias Ejercito Nacional and Lt. Col. Lizette Brown, Command Surgeon, 1st Mission Support Command, listen.

Approximately 500 U.S. service men and women from all services will be participating in the exercise. They will be joined by more than 1,000 participants from the region and the United Kingdom.

TRADEWINDS 2008

Tradewinds 2008 is hosted by the Dominican Republic. Its focus is on enhancing regional cooperation and responsiveness in the areas of maritime and ground security, civil-military coordination during disaster response, and other designated military and law enforcement missions.

TRADEWINDS 2008 WILL

- Train participating nations in selected anti-terrorism/security and other aviation/ground/maritime military skill sets.
- Train Caribbean Joint Task Force in command & control of a multinational combined unit.
- Conduct a leadership development course for the Caribbean NCO Corps
- Train forces on designated marksmanship and Martial arts skill sets.
- Conduct small boat tactics, engineering, and coxswain training in conjunction with the exercise.

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES INCLUDE

Antigua-Barbuda
Bahamas
Barbados
Belize
Bermuda
Canada
Dominica
Dominican Republic [Host]
French-Antilles
Grenada
Guyana
Haiti
Jamaica
Netherlands-Antilles
Suriname
St. Kitts-Nevis
St. Lucia
St. Vincent
Trinidad-Tobago
United Kingdom
United States

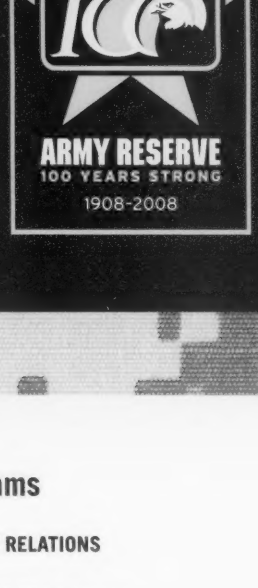
311TH ESC TRAINS FOR DEPLOYMENT TO MIDDLE EAST

By Sgt. Tracy Ellingsen
Public Affairs Office
311th Sustainment Command

FORT LEE, Va. — The Soldiers of the 311th Sustainment Command, Los Angelos, Calif., participated in a two-week Logistical Training Exercise (LTX) at Fort Lee, Va., from Dec. 1-15, 2007.

The exercise in Virginia was tailored to give the command the opportunity to work directly with the 1st TSC and train in current scenarios. They also worked with one of its downtrace units, the 4th Sustainment Brigade.

Once deployed to the Middle East, the Soldiers of the 311th will work with the 1st Theater Sustainment Command's Coalition/Joint Reception Staging and Onward Movement mission. They will also be responsible for the sustainment of the units in the entire area, which is the largest logistical operation the U.S. Army has ever undertaken.



ARMY R
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Army Reserve G-1 Programs

EMPLOYER SUPPORT AND EMPLOYEE RELATIONS

Army Reserve Employer Relations (ARER) Program
Description: The basic tenet of the Army Reserve Employer Relations Program is to build positive and enduring relationships with civilian employers of Army Reserve Soldiers in order to enhance Soldier readiness and positively impact retention.
Who it Benefits: Soldiers, Family members, and Employers
Toll-free number: (800) 359-8483 x4649014
Web-site: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/AKOG1/EmployerRelations/employer_relations.htm** (AKO Account required for access to this site)

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR)
Description: ESGR was established in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve component members and their civilian employers and to assist in the resolution of conflicts arising from an employee's military commitment.
Who it Benefits: Soldiers, Family members, and Employers
Toll-free number: (800) 336-4509
Web-site: **www.esgr.org**

ENLISTED PROMOTIONS (PROGRAM GUIDANCE, BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS, ETC)

Description: The latest information, program guidance, and board announcements for the Army Reserve's enlisted Soldier community.
Who it Benefits: All Army Reserve Enlisted Soldiers, including deployed.
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/index.htm**

ENLISTMENT

Non Prior Service Enlistment Bonus
Description: Incentive authorized for all new applicants to the Army Reserve for either a 3-year or 6-year commitment.
Who it Benefits: New Applicants
Benefit: Up to $20,000
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

High Grad
Description: Sub-payment of the Non Prior Service Enlistment bonus allowing applicants with 30 or more semester hours of college to receive additional money

REENLISTMENT

Reenlistment Bonus (Up to 20 years of se
Description: Awarded to Soldiers who agre
commitment.
Who it Benefits: In service Soldiers
Benefit: $7,500/$15,000
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/**

AGR Reenlistment Bonus
Description: Awarded to Soldiers who agre
commitment.
Who it Benefits: AGR Soldiers
Benefit: Up to $10,000/$20,000
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/**

EDUCATION

Student Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)
Description: Offered to personnel who agr
and is based on criticality of the MOS.
Who it Benefits: New and prior service ap
Benefit: Amounts vary
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1**

Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve (MG
Description: An education assistance prog
Reserve Soldiers. If you're eligible, you c
programs, certificate or correspondence
study programs, apprenticeship/on-the-j
programs. Even certain remedial, refresh
may be applicable. Under the MGIB-SR,
education benefits, with tuition payment
institution.
Who it Benefits: Non Prior Service and Pr
Benefit: Amount varies based on school s
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1**

Montgomery GI Bill Kicker
Description: Add an additional $100, $2
Soldier to your standard MGIB-SR benef

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the-job training, and vocational flight training
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), $200 or $350 a month as an Army Reserve
benefit for up to 36 months, depending on your

Education Career Stabilization
Description: Provides non prior service applicants the opportunity to serv
Army Reserve and complete up to four years of civilian schooling and/or
experience.
Who it Benefits: Non Prior Service Applicants
Benefit: 2-4 year stabilization
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

SOLDIER RECOGNITION

Welcome Home Warrior Citizen Award Program
Description: The Welcome Home Warrior Citizen Award is specifically ap
Congress to provide Soldiers, their family members and employers an a
and enduring memento in recognition for participation in Operations En
Iraqi Freedom.
Who it Benefits: Army Reserve Soldiers, family members and employers
Benefit: American flag with a shadow box, two commemorative coins, a "
Home Hero" flag, an AR commemorative coin, and a lapel pin set to ea
and a designated family member. Eligible children between the ages of
presented an Army Reserve backpack or teddy bear. Eligible employer
an Army Reserve Employer Coin and Patriot Partner Flag. Employers wh
or 5 star employer will also receive an Army Reserve Patriot Medallion.
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Awards/WelcomeHomeWarriorC**
Toll-Free Telephone Number: 1-800-359-8483

Freedom Team Salute
Description: Freedom Team Salute gives Active Duty, Reserve and Natio
Soldiers the opportunity to recognize and honor a parent's service, a sp
commitment, and an employer's long-standing support with a Commen
tailored to their contribution. Freedom Team Salute also gives everyone
opportunity to recognize U.S. Army Veterans with a Commendation for
dedicated service and continued support of today's Soldiers. The gener
and civilians, as well as all service members, can submit the names of
number of U.S. Army Veterans to Freedom Team Salute.
Who it Benefits: All spouses, parents and employers of U.S. Army Soldi
U.S. Army veterans
Benefit: Commendation certificate
Website: **www.freedomteamsalute.com**

Army Wounded Warrior Program

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Reserve G-1 Programs

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REENLISTMENT

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Benefit: $7,500/$15,000
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.ht**

AGR Reenlistment Bonus
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commitment.
Who it Benefits: AGR Soldiers
Benefit: Up to $10,000/$20,000
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and is based on criticality of the MOS.
Who it Benefits: New and prior service applicants, In service Sol
Benefit: Amounts vary
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.h**

Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR)
Description: An education assistance program enacted by Congr
Reserve Soldiers. If you're eligible, you can use the MGIB-SR t
programs, certificate or correspondence courses, cooperative tr
study programs, apprenticeship/on-the-job training, and vocati
programs. Even certain remedial, refresher and deficiency train
may be applicable. Under the MGIB-SR, you may receive up to
education benefits, with tuition payments sent directly from th
institution.
Who it Benefits: Non Prior Service and Prior Service Applicants
Benefit: Amount varies based on school status
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.h**

Montgomery GI Bill Kicker
Description: Add an additional $100, $200 or $350 a month a
Soldier to your standard MGIB-SR benefit for up to 36 months
selected Army Military Operational Specialty (MOS).

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Description: The Welcome Home Warrior Citizen Award is specifically approved by Congress to provide Soldiers, their family members and employers an appropriate and enduring memento in recognition for participation in Operations Enduring or Iraqi Freedom.
Who it Benefits: Army Reserve Soldiers, family members and employers
Benefit: American flag with a shadow box, two commemorative coins, a "Welcome Home Hero" flag, an AR commemorative coin, and a lapel pin set to each Soldier and a designated family member. Eligible children between the ages of 1-18 will be presented an Army Reserve backpack or teddy bear. Eligible employers will receive an Army Reserve Employer Coin and Patriot Partner Flag. Employers verified as a 4 or 5 star employer will also receive an Army Reserve Patriot Medallion.
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Awards/WelcomeHomeWarriorCit/WHWC.htm**
Toll-Free Telephone Number: 1-800-359-8483

Freedom Team Salute
Description: Freedom Team Salute gives Active Duty, Reserve and National Guard Soldiers the opportunity to recognize and honor a parent's service, a spouse's commitment, and an employer's long-standing support with a Commendation tailored to their contribution. Freedom Team Salute also gives everyone the opportunity to recognize U.S. Army Veterans with a Commendation for their dedicated service and continued support of today's Soldiers. The general public and civilians, as well as all service members, can submit the names of an unlimited number of U.S. Army Veterans to Freedom Team Salute.
Who it Benefits: All spouses, parents and employers of U.S. Army Soldiers as well as U.S. Army veterans
Benefit: Commendation certificate
Website: **www.freedomteamsalute.com**

Army Wounded Warrior Program
Description: The U.S. Army Wounded Warrior Program (AW2) incorporates and integrates several existing programs to provide the Army's "Gold Star" support

ENLISTED PROMOTIONS (PROGRAM GUIDANCE, BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS, ETC)

Description: The latest information, program guidance, and board announcements for the Army Reserve's enlisted Soldier community.
Who it Benefits: All Army Reserve Enlisted Soldiers, including deployed.
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/index.htm**

ENLISTMENT

Non Prior Service Enlistment Bonus
Description: Incentive authorized for all new applicants to the Army Reserve for either a 3-year or 6-year commitment.
Who it Benefits: New Applicants
Benefit: Up to $20,000
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

High Grad
Description: Sub-payment of the Non Prior Service Enlistment bonus allowing applicants with 30 or more semester hours of college to receive additional money for enlisting.
Who it Benefits: Non Prior Service Applicants w/college credit or degree
Benefit: Up to $4,000
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

Quick Ship Payment
Description: Sub-payment of the Non Prior Service Enlistment bonus designed to entice Soldiers to ship during a priority ship month, usually within 60 days of enlistment.
Who it Benefits: Non Prior Service Applicants
Benefit: $7,000/$2,000
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

Army Civilian Acquired Skills Program (ACASP)
Description: Sub-payment of the Non Prior Service Enlistment bonus designed to attract applicants with civilian skills that mirror an MOS in the Army Reserve. Qualified applicants are not required to attend Advanced Individual Training.
Who it Benefits: Non Prior Service Applicants
Benefit: Up to $20,000
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

Prior Service Enlistment Bonus (up to 16 years of service)
Description: Authorized for applicants with prior military service for either a 3-year or 6-year commitment.
Who it Benefits: Prior Service Soldiers
Benefit: $7,500/$15,000
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

Officer/Warrant Officer Accession Bonus
Description: Awarded to newly appointed Officers and Warrant Officers in select MOS/AOC (based on shortages).
Who it Benefits: OCS, Direct Appointment, ROTC
Benefit: Up to $10,000
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

Officer/Warrant Officer Affiliation Bonus
Description: Awarded to Officers and Warrant Officers transferring from either the Active Component or the IRR to TPU status.
Who it Benefits: Prior AC Officers
Benefit: Up to $10,000
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

Enlisted Affiliation Bonus
Description: Awarded to Soldiers transferring from either the Active Component or the IRR to TPU status.
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/In**

Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve (MGIB
Description: An education assistance progra
Reserve Soldiers. If you're eligible, you car
programs, certificate or correspondence co
study programs, apprenticeship/on-the-job
programs. Even certain remedial, refresher
may be applicable. Under the MGIB-SR, yo
education benefits, with tuition payments s
institution.
Who it Benefits: Non Prior Service and Prior
Benefit: Amount varies based on school stat
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/In**

Montgomery GI Bill Kicker
Description: Add an additional $100, $200
Soldier to your standard MGIB-SR benefit
selected Army Military Operational Special
Who it Benefits: Non Prior Service and Prior
Benefit: Up to $350/month
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/In**

Tuition Assistance
Description: The Tuition Assistance (TA) pro
voluntary off-duty education programs in s
personal self-development goals.
Who it Benefits: In Service Soldier
Benefit: Up to $4,550/year based on class
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/E**
TuitionAssistance.htm

OTHER INCENTIVES

Referral Bonus
Description: Awarded to Soldiers who refer
Army National Guard, or Army Reserve.
Who it Benefits: In service Soldiers, Retiree
Benefit: $2,000
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/I**

MOS Conversion
Description: Incentive for Soldiers in the ra
strength MOS to transfer to a shortage MO
Who it Benefits: MOS-specific/In service So
Benefit: $2,000
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/I**

Reserve Income Replacement Program (RI
Description: Monthly stipend awarded to ot
income due to mobilization.
Who it Benefits: Extended and Frequently
Benefit: Up to $3,000/month
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/**

Mobilization Deferment
Description: 24-month stabilization awarde
Who it Benefits: AC/IRR Transfers
Benefit: Mobilization deferment
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/**

Mandatory Service Obligation Reduction
Description: Awarded to Soldiers transition
agree to serve a minimum of 12 months

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MGIB-SR)
rogram enacted by Congress to benefit Army
u can use the MGIB-SR towards any degree
ce courses, cooperative training, independent
e-job training, and vocational flight training
esher and deficiency training courses
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Prior Service Applicants
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$200 or $350 a month as an Army Reserve
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pecialty (MOS).
Prior Service Applicants

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class load
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Retirees, DACs

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Toll-Free Telephone Number: 1-800-359-8483

Freedom Team Salute
Description: Freedom Team Salute gives Active Duty, Reserve and Nati
Soldiers the opportunity to recognize and honor a parent's service, a s
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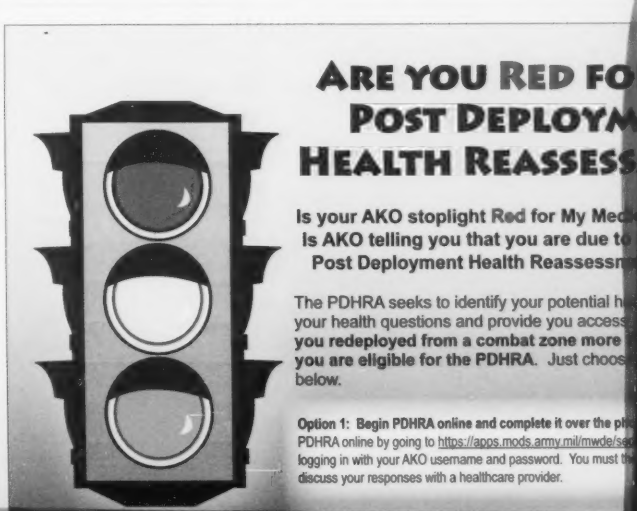
tailored to their contribution. Freedom Team Salute also gives everyon
opportunity to recognize U.S. Army Veterans with a Commendation for
dedicated service and continued support of today's Soldiers. The gene
and civilians, as well as all service members, can submit the names o
number of U.S. Army Veterans to Freedom Team Salute.
Who it Benefits: All spouses, parents and employers of U.S. Army Soldi
U.S. Army veterans
Benefit: Commendation certificate
Website: **www.freedomteamsalute.com**

Army Wounded Warrior Program
Description: The U.S. Army Wounded Warrior Program (AW2) incorpora
integrates several existing programs to provide the Army's "Gold Sta
services for our wounded Soldiers and their families. In addition AW2
monitors our severely wounded Soldiers and their families for a mini
five years beyond their medical retirement.
Who it Benefits: Wounded Soldiers and their families
Benefit: Varies
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/SoldierServices/WoundedW
warrior.htm or https://www.aw2.army.mil**
Toll-Free Telephone Number: 1-800-237-1336 or 1-800-984-823

RECRUITING ASSISTANCE

Army Reserve Recruiting Assistance Program (AR-RAP)
Description: To maintain today's readiness and strength requirements
Assistance Program promotes strength from within by recognizing a
those who help the Army Reserve achieve its goals. Recruiting Assis
money assisting the Army Reserve by identifying well-qualified men
service in the Army Reserve. You can earn $2,000 for each new rec
to Basic Training, or Basic Officer Leadership Course, and for each
member who affiliates with a unit for four months and have attende
Assembly in the last 60 days.
Who it Benefits: Off Duty Status Soldiers, including those who are
Program Unit (TPU) Status, as well as Retirees of the Army Reserve
years of service are currently able to participate in AR-RAP.
Benefit: Up to $2,000 for each new accession
Website: **https://ar-rap.com/**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HEALTH REASSESS
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Post Deployment Health Reassessm
The PDHRA seeks to identify your potential h
your health questions and provide you access
you redeployed from a combat zone more
you are eligible for the PDHRA. Just choos
below.
Option 1: Begin PDHRA online and complete it over the p
PDHRA online by going to https://apps.mods.army.mil/mwde/se
logging in with your AKO username and password. You must t
discuss your responses with a healthcare provider.

OMOTIONS (PROGRAM GUIDANCE, BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS, ETC)

The latest information, program guidance, and board announcements
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Prior Service Soldiers
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Officer Accession Bonus
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nt or the IRR to TPU status.
Prior AC Officers
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ded to Soldiers transferring from either the Active Component or
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rior Service AC/IRR Soldiers
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Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve (MGIB-SR)
Description: An education assistance program enacted by Congress t
Reserve Soldiers. If you're eligible, you can use the MGIB-SR towar
programs, certificate or correspondence courses, cooperative trainin
study programs, apprenticeship/on-the-job training, and vocational
programs. Even certain remedial, refresher and deficiency training
may be applicable. Under the MGIB-SR, you may receive up to 36
education benefits, with tuition payments sent directly from the VA
institution.
Who it Benefits: Non Prior Service and Prior Service Applicants
Benefit: Amount varies based on school status
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

Montgomery GI Bill Kicker
Description: Add an additional $100, $200 or $350 a month as an
Soldier to your standard MGIB-SR benefit for up to 36 months, dep
selected Army Military Operational Specialty (MOS).
Who it Benefits: Non Prior Service and Prior Service Applicants
Benefit: Up to $350/month
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

Tuition Assistance
Description: The Tuition Assistance (TA) program provides financial
voluntary off-duty education programs in support of a Soldier's pro
personal self-development goals.
Who it Benefits: In Service Soldier
Benefit: Up to $4,550/year based on class load
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Education/Tuition%20Assis**
TuitionAssistance.htm

OTHER INCENTIVES

Referral Bonus
Description: Awarded to Soldiers who refer a non prior service appli
Army National Guard, or Army Reserve.
Who it Benefits: In service Soldiers, Retirees, DACs
Benefit: $2,000
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

MOS Conversion
Description: Incentive for Soldiers in the rank of SSG and below wh
strength MOS to transfer to a shortage MOS.
Who it Benefits: MOS-specific/In service Soldiers
Benefit: $2,000
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

Reserve Income Replacement Program (RIRP)
Description: Monthly stipend awarded to offset Soldiers experienci
income due to mobilization.
Who it Benefits: Extended and Frequently Mobilized AR Soldiers
Benefit: Up to $3,000/month
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

Mobilization Deferment
Description: 24-month stabilization awarded to AC/IRR transfers.
Who it Benefits: AC/IRR Transfers
Benefit: Mobilization deferment
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

Mandatory Service Obligation Reduction
Description: Awarded to Soldiers transitioning from AC or IRR to a
agree to serve a minimum of 12 months in TPU status.
Who it Benefits: AC/IRR Transfers

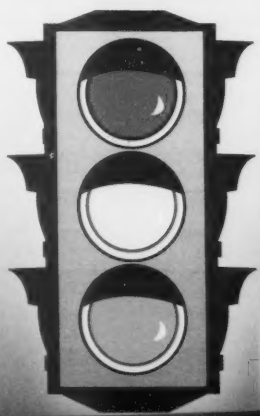
Toll-Free Telephone Number: 1-800-359-8483

Freedom Team Salute
Description: Freedom Team Salute gives Active Duty, Reserve and National Guard Soldiers the opportunity to recognize and honor a parent's service, a spouse's commitment, and an employer's long-standing support with a Commendation tailored to their contribution. Freedom Team Salute also gives everyone the opportunity to recognize U.S. Army Veterans with a Commendation for their dedicated service and continued support of today's Soldiers. The general public and civilians, as well as all service members, can submit the names of an unlimited number of U.S. Army Veterans to Freedom Team Salute.
Who it Benefits: All spouses, parents and employers of U.S. Army Soldiers as well as U.S. Army veterans
Benefit: Commendation certificate
Website: **www.freedomteamsalute.com**

Army Wounded Warrior Program
Description: The U.S. Army Wounded Warrior Program (AW2) incorporates and integrates several existing programs to provide the Army's "Gold Star" support services for our wounded Soldiers and their families. In addition AW2 tracks and monitors our severely wounded Soldiers and their families for a minimum period of five years beyond their medical retirement.
Who it Benefits: Wounded Soldiers and their families
Benefit: Varies
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/SoldierServices/WoundedWarrior/wounded_warrior.htm or https://www.aw2.army.mil**
Toll-Free Telephone Number: 1-800-237-1336 or 1-800-984-823

RECRUITING ASSISTANCE

Army Reserve Recruiting Assistance Program (AR-RAP)
Description: To maintain today's readiness and strength requirements, the Recruiting Assistance Program promotes strength from within by recognizing and rewarding those who help the Army Reserve achieve its goals. Recruiting Assistants can earn money assisting the Army Reserve by identifying well-qualified men and women for service in the Army Reserve. You can earn $2,000 for each new recruit who reports to Basic Training, or Basic Officer Leadership Course, and for each prior service member who affiliates with a unit for four months and have attended a Battle Assembly in the last 60 days.
Who it Benefits: Off Duty Status Soldiers, including those who are on Active Troop Program Unit (TPU) Status, as well as Retirees of the Army Reserve with 20 or more years of service are currently able to participate in AR-RAP.
Benefit: Up to $2,000 for each new accession
Website: **https://ar-rap.com/**



ARE YOU RED FOR THE POST DEPLOYMENT HEALTH REASSESSMENT?

Is your AKO stoplight Red for My Medical Readiness? Is AKO telling you that you are due to complete your Post Deployment Health Reassessment (PDHRA)?

The PDHRA seeks to identify your potential health issues, answer your health questions and provide you access to health care. **If you redeployed from a combat zone more than 90 days ago you are eligible for the PDHRA.** Just choose one of the options below.

Option 1: Begin PDHRA online and complete it over the phone. You may complete the PDHRA online by going to https://apps.mods.army.mil/mwde/secure/AKOForms.asp and logging in with your AKO username and password. You must then call 1-888-PDHRA-99 to discuss your responses with a healthcare provider.

Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

Army Civilian Acquired Skills Program (ACASP)
Description: Sub-payment of the Non Prior Service Enlistment bonus designed to attract applicants with civilian skills that mirror an MOS in the Army Reserve. Qualified applicants are not required to attend Advanced Individual Training.
Who it Benefits: Non Prior Service Applicants
Benefit: Up to $20,000
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

Prior Service Enlistment Bonus (up to 16 years of service)
Description: Authorized for applicants with prior military service for either a 3-year or 6-year commitment.
Who it Benefits: Prior Service Soldiers
Benefit: $7,500/$15,000
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

Officer/Warrant Officer Accession Bonus
Description: Awarded to newly appointed Officers and Warrant Officers in select MOS/AOC (based on shortages).
Who it Benefits: OCS, Direct Appointment, ROTC
Benefit: Up to $10,000
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

Officer/Warrant Officer Affiliation Bonus
Description: Awarded to Officers and Warrant Officers transferring from either the Active Component or the IRR to TPU status.
Who it Benefits: Prior AC Officers
Benefit: Up to $10,000
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

Enlisted Affiliation Bonus
Description: Awarded to Soldiers transferring from either the Active Component or the IRR to TPU status.
Who it Benefits: Prior Service AC/IRR Soldiers
Benefit: Up to $20,000
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

Benefit: Up to $4,550/year based on class loa
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Edu TuitionAssistance.htm**

OTHER INCENTIVES

Referral Bonus
Description: Awarded to Soldiers who refer a Army National Guard, or Army Reserve.
Who it Benefits: In service Soldiers, Retirees,
Benefit: $2,000
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Inc**

MOS Conversion
Description: Incentive for Soldiers in the rank strength MOS to transfer to a shortage MOS
Who it Benefits: MOS-specific/In service Sold
Benefit: $2,000
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Inc**

Reserve Income Replacement Program (RIRP
Description: Monthly stipend awarded to offs income due to mobilization.
Who it Benefits: Extended and Frequently Mo
Benefit: Up to $3,000/month
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Inc**

Mobilization Deferment
Description: 24-month stabilization awarded
Who it Benefits: AC/IRR Transfers
Benefit: Mobilization deferment
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Inc**

Mandatory Service Obligation Reduction
Description: Awarded to Soldiers transitionin agree to serve a minimum of 12 months in
Who it Benefits: AC/IRR Transfers
Benefit: Up to 24 months
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Inc**

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RECRUITING ASSISTANCE

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Description: To maintain today's readiness and strength requirements, the R
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service in the Army Reserve. You can earn $2,000 for each new recruit who
to Basic Training, or Basic Officer Leadership Course, and for each prior se
member who affiliates with a unit for four months and have attended a Batt
Assembly in the last 60 days.
Who it Benefits: Off Duty Status Soldiers, including those who are on Activ
Program Unit (TPU) Status, as well as Retirees of the Army Reserve with 20
years of service are currently able to participate in AR-RAP.
Benefit: Up to $2,000 for each new accession
Website: **https://ar-rap.com/**

ARE YOU RED FOR TH
POST DEPLOYMENT
HEALTH REASSESSMEN
Is your AKO stoplight Red for My Medical Readi
Is AKO telling you that you are due to complete
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The PDHRA seeks to identify your potential health issues,
your health questions and provide you access to health ca
you redeployed from a combat zone more than 90 day
you are eligible for the PDHRA. Just choose one of the
below.
Option 1: Begin PDHRA online and complete it over the phone. You may c
PDHRA online by going to https://apps.mods.army.mil/mwde/secure/AKOForms.
logging in with your AKO username and password. You must then call 1-888-PD
discuss your responses with a healthcare provider.
Option 2: Complete PDHRA entirely over the phone.
If you do not have access to a computer or AKO, you may call 1-888-PDHRA-9
complete the entire assessment over the phone.
Questions? Visit http://www.virtualarmory.com/mobiledeploy/PDHRA for more informatio

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Service AC/IRR Soldiers
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usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm

Benefit: Up to $4,550/year based on class load
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Education/Tuition%20Assis TuitionAssistance.htm**

OTHER INCENTIVES

Referral Bonus
Description: Awarded to Soldiers who refer a non prior service appli Army National Guard, or Army Reserve.
Who it Benefits: In service Soldiers, Retirees, DACs
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Description: Incentive for Soldiers in the rank of SSG and below wh strength MOS to transfer to a shortage MOS.
Who it Benefits: MOS-specific/In service Soldiers
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Description: Monthly stipend awarded to offset Soldiers experiencir income due to mobilization.
Who it Benefits: Extended and Frequently Mobilized AR Soldiers
Benefit: Up to $3,000/month
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

Mobilization Deferment
Description: 24-month stabilization awarded to AC/IRR transfers.
Who it Benefits: AC/IRR Transfers
Benefit: Mobilization deferment
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

Mandatory Service Obligation Reduction
Description: Awarded to Soldiers transitioning from AC or IRR to a agree to serve a minimum of 12 months in TPU status.
Who it Benefits: AC/IRR Transfers
Benefit: Up to 24 months
Website: **https://esaiwr.usar.army.mil/akog1/Incentives/Incentives.htm**

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RECRUITING ASSISTANCE

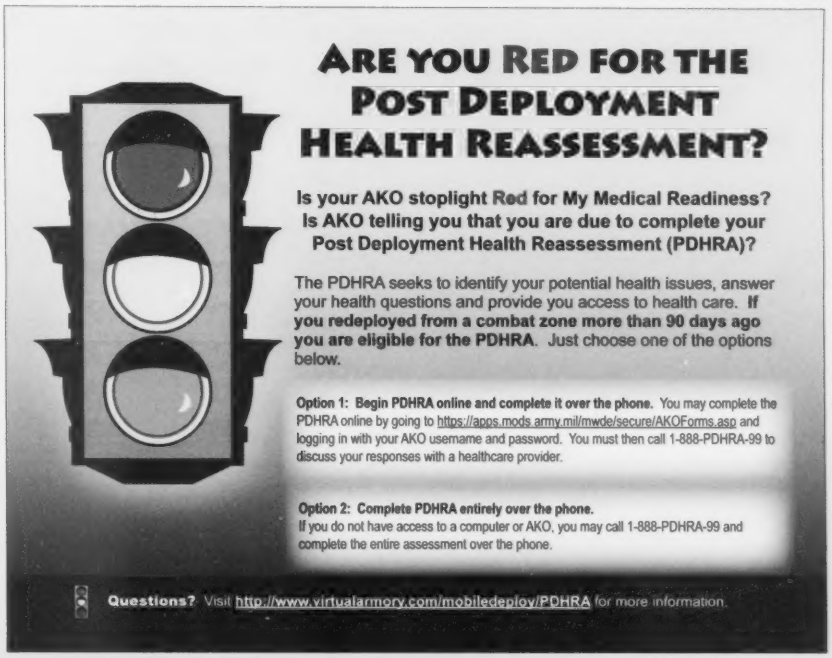
Army Reserve Recruiting Assistance Program (AR-RAP)

Description: To maintain today's readiness and strength requirements, the Recruiting Assistance Program promotes strength from within by recognizing and rewarding those who help the Army Reserve achieve its goals. Recruiting Assistants can earn money assisting the Army Reserve by identifying well-qualified men and women for service in the Army Reserve. You can earn $2,000 for each new recruit who reports to Basic Training, or Basic Officer Leadership Course, and for each prior service member who affiliates with a unit for four months and have attended a Battle Assembly in the last 60 days.

Who it Benefits: Off Duty Status Soldiers, including those who are on Active Troop Program Unit (TPU) Status, as well as Retirees of the Army Reserve with 20 or more years of service are currently able to participate in AR-RAP.

Benefit: Up to $2,000 for each new accession

Website: **https://ar-rap.com/**


ARE YOU RED FOR THE POST DEPLOYMENT HEALTH REASSESSMENT?
Is your AKO stoplight Red for My Medical Readiness? Is AKO telling you that you are due to complete your Post Deployment Health Reassessment (PDHRA)?
The PDHRA seeks to identify your potential health issues, answer your health questions and provide you access to health care. If you redeployed from a combat zone more than 90 days ago you are eligible for the PDHRA. Just choose one of the options below.
Option 1: Begin PDHRA online and complete it over the phone. You may complete the PDHRA online by going to https://apps.mods.army.mil/mwde/secure/AKOForms.asp and logging in with your AKO username and password. You must then call 1-888-PDHRA-99 to discuss your responses with a healthcare provider.
Option 2: Complete PDHRA entirely over the phone.
If you do not have access to a computer or AKO, you may call 1-888-PDHRA-99 and complete the entire assessment over the phone.
Questions? Visit http://www.virtualarmory.com/mobiledeploy/PDHRA for more information.

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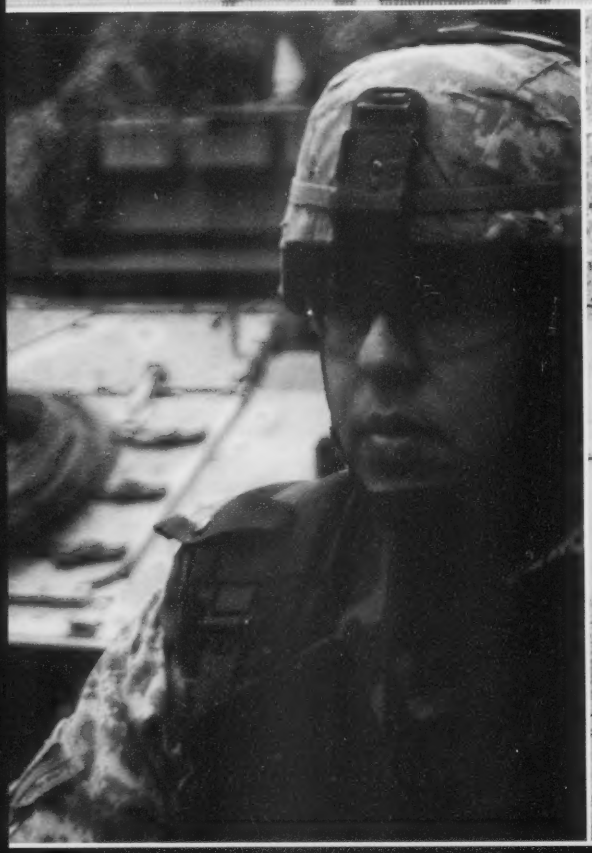

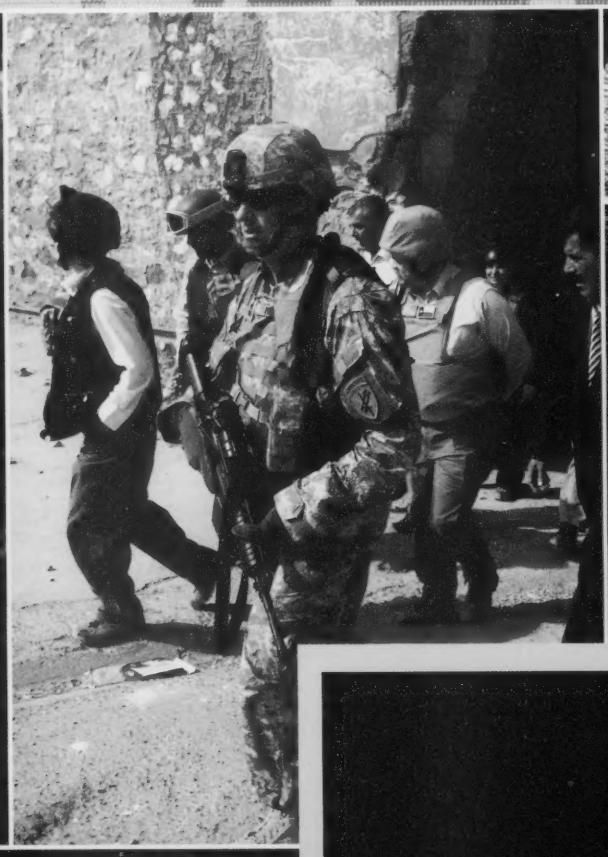

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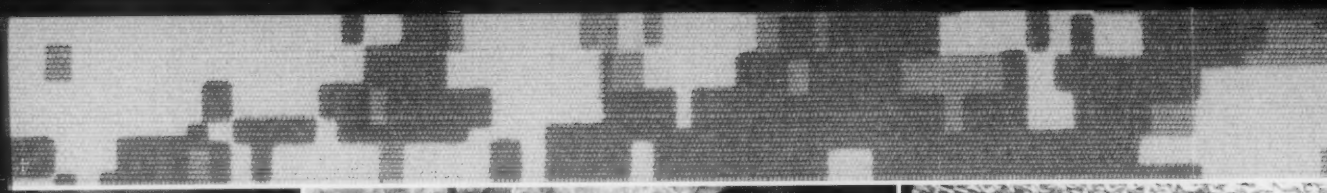
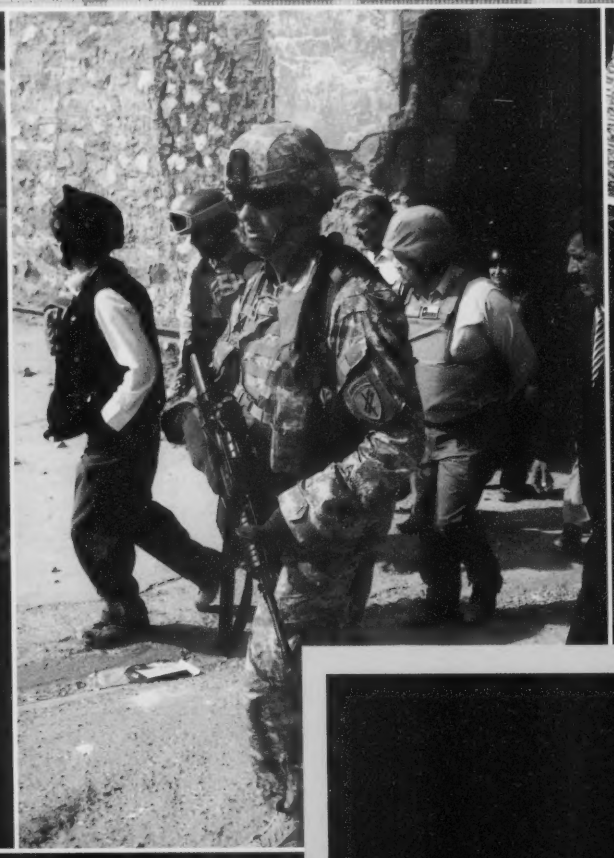
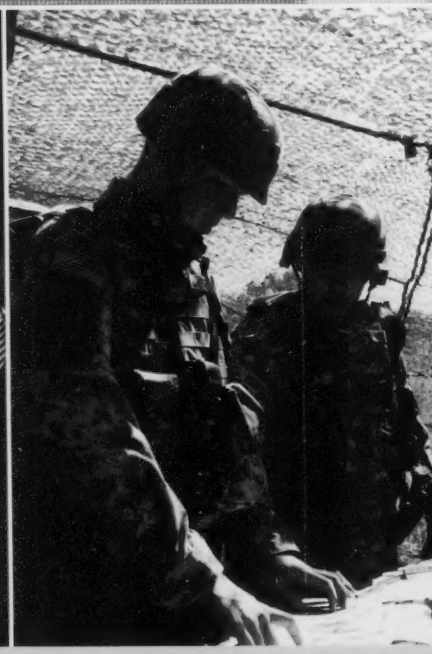
SGT JOE MURRE LANE







SGT JOE NURRE LANE

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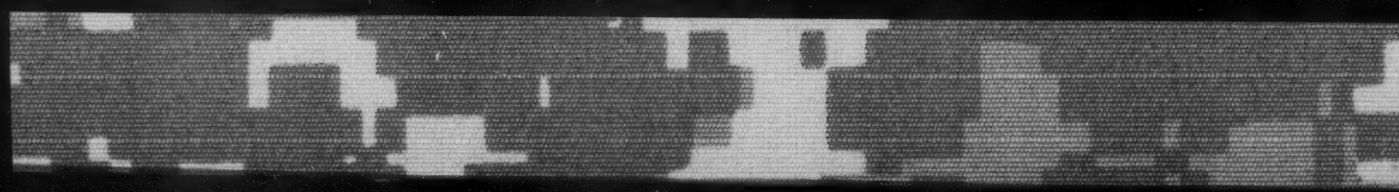

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Reserve at www.goarmy.com/reserve

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5502ND U.S. ARMY HOSPITAL TRAINS IN EMERGENCY MEDIC SIMULATION

By 1st Lt. Michael Meyer
Public Affairs Office
AR-MEDCOM

AURORA, Colo. — Army Reserve Soldiers recently completed skill enhancing medical training at the Community College of Aurora (CCA), in Aurora, Co. The Soldiers, of the 5502nd U.S. Army Hospital (USAH) in Aurora, spent their annual training using the college's Simulation Studio to enhance their medical and decision- making skills under the stress of real life situations.

Capt. John Eller, training officer of the 5502nd USAH, coordinated with the CCA to make the training available to his Soldiers.

"This year, we are preparing to mobilize, so we need to do everything possible to get ourselves ready for that deployment," Eller said. "I felt we needed some training that really addressed those skills needed in combat, and this Sim-Center helps," he added.

The Soldiers conducted their annual Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) educational requirements at the college's Simulation Studio.

Spec. Amber Bachmeier said this was the most realistic EMT training she has ever received.

"I think this training should be initiated throughout the Army. Otherwise, the first time we get actual trauma training may be in Iraq or Afghanistan," she said.

Bachmeier, an Army Reserve medic, responded to the scene of a simulated traffic accident where a vehicle crashed into a street side café causing several casualties, ranging from serious to critical. This simulation allowed Bachmeier's instructors to test her decision-making skills in a controlled, monitored environment. Her decisions could make the difference between life and death in a real-life situation.

Pony Anderson is the Simulation Coordinator at the ACC's Simulation Studio.

"What we do here is unique as far as simulation education. As far as we know, we are the first in the world to implement this type of training," Anderson said.

Since 2005, the center has provided emergency medical personnel with a chance to train in a dedicated facility.

Using the latest technology, instructors can leave students alone in the environment. A control room allows instructors to change the environment and evaluate student performance.

1st Lt. Michael Meyer

Patients are $50,000 mannequins that can speak and react to treatment.

Program administrators hired professional Hollywood set builders to create multiple environments that simulate realistic emergency medical experiences in the home, on the street, in a busy lounge or restaurant.

The simulation tested medics on their technical skills, as well as their situational awareness and site security. Medics interacted with actors from the college posing as bystanders, photographers and potential threats.

In one simulation, Sgt. Richard Hammel and his team reacted to an emergency call at a patient's home. Upon arrival, they encountered an intoxicated family member wielding a knife. Hammel successfully talked the uncle down, and evacuated the patient without serious incident.

Some of the victims in the scenarios are actors from the college; others are high-tech mannequins.

"In my scenario, the patient was an actual sim-man. It was sort of like a robot. It could breathe, it could talk, it had breath sounds, and it had a pulse. I could even check vital signs on it," said Hammel.

Staff Sgt. James Reynolds, the training NCO of the 5502nd, says that the Soldiers responded with positive remarks at the conclusion of the training. Many graded the training as an outstanding experience.

"Soldier skills were definitely put to the test in the training. Many Soldiers wanted to carry a full combat load and experience a combat environment in future simulations," he said.

According to Anderson, this is just the beginning of what CCA can provide. The college has the potential to add any environment that the military may require including an urban combat environment, aircraft disasters, or individual explosive device (IED) scenarios.

The CCA offered this training to the 20 medics of the 5502nd USAH at no charge. Reyolds said that plans are underway to conduct future annual training at the facility.

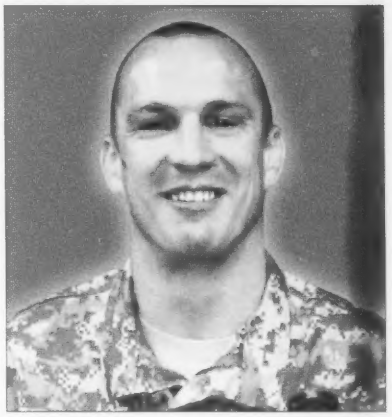
WARRIOR-CITIZENS: AN INTEGRAL PART OF TODAY'S ARMY

Army Reserve Soldiers are Warrior-Citizens who contribute to their local communities as they pursue their civilian careers. In uniform, they also contribute to our national security when they train, prepare, watch and listen for a call to arms.

These Army Reserve Soldiers are typical of the patriotic men and women who have answered the Nation's call to serve. They are illustrative of why our Warrior-Citizens are the strength of our Nation, are an integral part of today's U.S. Army, and deserving of the best possible, most thorough training, resourcing and support from Congress and the American people.

Here are some of their stories. They are examples of the kinds of strength Army Reserve Soldiers bring to the operational force as well as to their civilian communities. These Warrior-Citizens are some of the 188,257 Army Reserve Soldiers mobilized since Sept. 11, 2001, and demonstrate why Warrior-Citizens are among those proud to be called "Army Strong."

Sgt. James Witkowski



Staff Sgt. Jason Fetty

Pfc. Jeremy Church

A TRIO OF SILVER STAR ARMY RESERVE SOLDIERS

Editor's note: Reprinted with permission from the VFW magazine.

Three Army Reserve Soldiers have earned the military's third-highest medal for bravery in Iraq and Afghanistan.

By Tim Dyhouse

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have thrust entire units of Army Reserve Soldiers into combat. This unprecedented use has inevitably led to valorous deeds from these Citizen-Soldiers. Here are the stories of the three Silver Star recipients to date, two from Iraq and one from Afghanistan.

"Just Glad I Didn't Get Shot"

Pfc. Jeremy Church knows firsthand how Baghdad's infamous airport road gained its reputation as once one of the most dangerous routes in Iraq. His bravery along that road on April 9, 2004, earned him the distinction of being the Army Reserve's first Silver Star recipient in the Iraq War. He also is the first member of an Army Reserve unit to earn that medal since the Vietnam War.

Church, serving with the 724th Transportation Company, based in Bartonville, Ill., was driving the lead vehicle in a convoy to pick up fuel at Baghdad International Airport. Between 150-200 members of the al Sadr militia ambushed the convoy in a residential area with rocket-propelled grenades (RPGs), improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and small-arms fire.

"There were enemy Soldiers everywhere," Church recalled."Bullets were flying through the front window. RPGs were hitting. IEDs were going off. Thirteen IEDs went off and the 14th hit us. It blasted our tire, and we drove on three tires and a rim. There was so much fire we couldn't even hear the radios."

Church's platoon leader, 1st Lt. Matthew Brown, was riding next to him. He suffered two shots to the head in the initial burst. Ripping open a first-aid kit, Church instructed the lieutenant to place a bandage on his eye as he fired his rifle at the attackers while driving through the kill zone.

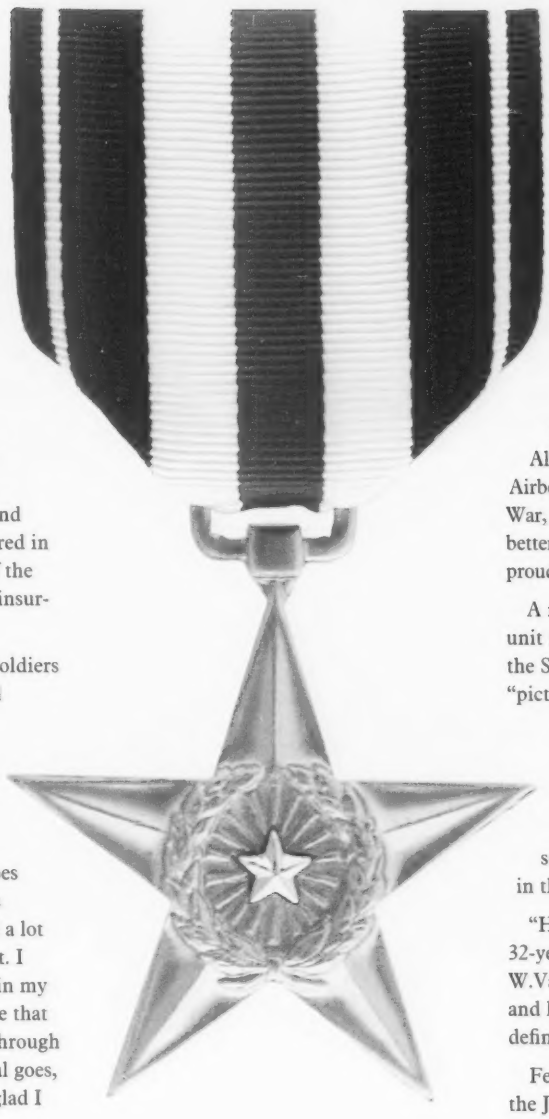
Once out of range of the enemy, Church helped get Brown to a field hospital. He returned to the ambush site to help other Soldiers still pinned down.

"When we got to the Humvee, so many rounds had torn through the engine block that it was disabled," Church said. "I peered in and the first two sets of guys were covered in blood, shot in the legs. A couple of the other guys had bled to death. The insurgents were still coming at us."

Church carried both wounded Soldiers to a rescue vehicle and then stayed behind, trading fire with the enemy. A recovery team extricated Church some 10 minutes later.

"What I went through was traumatic," Church explains."It does something to you. You shut things out. But it made me appreciate life a lot more. I've carried dead friends out. I was working with a guy who died in my arms. Most people don't experience that jolt of reality. Afterward, you see through the stupid stuff. As far as the medal goes, I don't think I earned it. I'm just glad I didn't get shot."

Church was credited with saving the lives of at least five Soldiers and four civilians. He returned home in February 2005, but redeployed to Iraq as a specialist with the 454th Transportation Company in November 2005 for another tour.



"Pretty Much Saved the Entire Convoy"

The selfless actions of Sgt. James Witkowski, a member of the 729th Transportation Company, based in Fresno, Calif., directly saved the lives of three fellow Soldiers on Oct. 26, 2005. In doing so, he sacrificed his own life.

Witkowski, a 32-year-old Sunrise, Ariz., resident, was manning the .50-caliber machine gun in the turret of a Humvee that day when his 23-vehicle convoy entered a one-mile-long kill zone near Ashraf, Iraq.

Hit by IEDs, RPGs and hand grenades, the vehicles, which were transporting supplies to Forward Operating Base Susie near Kirkuk, was in danger of stalling, endangering the lives of some 100 Soldiers in the convoy. As Witkowski kept the attackers off balance with lethal bursts of his machine gun, a grenade landed inside his turret.

He continued firing until the blast erupted, which his body fully absorbed, saving the three other Soldiers in the Humvee but killing Witkowski instantly. A fellow Soldier also noted that his actions "pretty much saved the entire convoy."

At his son's posthumous Silver Star ceremony on April 9, 2006, at the Joint Forces Training Base in Los Alamitos, Calif., Jim Witkowski, a 101st Airborne Division veteran of the Vietnam War, said, "This shows that he was a much better person than I was. I'm just so very proud of him."

A member of the younger Witkowski's unit noted that James, who enlisted after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, was the "picture-perfect American hero."

"You Just Stop Thinking About Yourself"

Army Staff Sgt. Jason Fetty knew something was wrong. He could read it in the man's face.

"He was crazy in the eyes," recalled the 32-year-old pharmacist from Parkersburg, W.Va. "He looked like he was on drugs, and he was acting very erratic. He definitely didn't look right."

Fetty, an Army Reservist serving with the Joint Provincial Reconstruction Team of the 364th Civil Affairs Brigade, based in Portland, Ore., was pulling guard duty on Feb. 20, 2007, at the opening of a medical facility in Khost, Afghanistan. He noticed an unfamiliar man dressed like a doctor and immediately had a bad feeling.

"Every Soldier who has been in combat or been downrange knows when something is not right," he said. "You can feel it. You can see it. It's a general sinking feeling that things are not going to go right. You feel it in your gut."

Fetty's gut feeling had been honed after serving more than 10 months in Khost. He immediately ordered the disguised doctor

down onto the ground. Instead, the man grabbed the barrel of Fetty's rifle.

"I was pretty sure he had a [suicide] vest on under his lab coat," he said. "I knew that if he grabbed hold of me or my armor, I was toast. I wouldn't be able to stop him from detonating himself."

Fetty maneuvered the man around a corner and away from the crowd at the hospital while keeping his eyes locked on the would-be attacker's.

"The last thing I wanted him to do was lose focus on me, because he didn't want to attack me," he said. "The governor of the province was there, and he was the primary target. Suicide bombers rarely attack Americans. They want government officials. So I kept his focus on me."

Fetty gained some distance by hitting the terrorist with the butt of his weapon and firing warning shots into the ground. When the man advanced again, Fetty shot him in the lower leg and kneecap.

"He stood back up, even though I gave him a crippling wound," Fetty said. "He got back up and tried to come at me again."

Fetty shot him again, and as the terrorist lay on the ground, Fetty saw him reach into his lab coat.

"I knew what his intent was and I abandoned all hopes of killing the guy before he would explode," Fetty said.

Fetty remembers taking three steps and diving toward the ground as the terrorist detonated his bomb. For his selfless action, Fetty became the first Army Reserve Soldier to earn the Silver Star for service in Afghanistan. He also received a Purple Heart after receiving shrapnel wounds to his face, leg and ankle.

Fetty, who now serves with the 339th Medical Corps Hospital in Coraopolis, Pa., recalls that during the struggle, he realized he might not survive the ordeal.

"You resign yourself pretty quick," he said later. "You just stop thinking at that point about yourself. It was either going to be me or 20 other people back there. I don't really believe in valor that much. I think there are plenty of people over there who are just as brave as I am."

SGT. NICHOLAS HORN AND SPEC. BETHANY HORN DEPEND ON EACH OTHER

College student Bethany Gunter wanted to challenge herself, mentally and physically, so she joined the Army Reserve; the educational assistance would help defray college expenses.

In her Little Rock, Ark. unit she not only found the challenge she sought, she also found a soul mate, Nicholas Horn. After taking a few college courses and working for several years in the plumbing business, he was also ready for a change. He dreamed of being a Soldier and the thought of becoming a husband never entered his mind, until he met Beth. The two Soldiers married shortly before deploying together to Mosul, Iraq, where they served with the 431st Civil Affairs Battalion.

There, Spec. Bethany Horn worked in supply, but was trained to drive a 17,000 pound up-armored Humvee and to serve as the swiveling turret gunner behind a belt-fed machine gun. Sgt. Nicholas Horn was the NCO in charge. During his one-year deployment, he was awarded a Bronze Star for saving the life of a civilian injured in a mortar attack.

Bethany said their joint deployment forced them to mature, "We couldn't be kids anymore, our day-to-day objective was to survive and to try to make a difference in Iraq." Nicholas said the deployment reinforced to him the fact that marriage is a team effort, especially in a combat zone.

Courtesy Photo

Spec. Bethany Horn and Sgt. Nicholas Horn in Mosul, Iraq.

"We worked together 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We saw each other react when mortars hit and we grew to depend on each other; to stay alive as we build our lives together. She's the only battle buddy I'll ever need."

They both believe the skills they've learned in the Army Reserve will help them be better leaders in their community as they interact with customers and classmates and to improve their readiness and training with their unit in the Army Reserve.

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

This yellow ribbon symbolizes our commitment to honoring those of our Army Reserve Soldiers who have fallen, those who are missing and those who are serving around the globe. It will appear on each issue until they all come home.

AR Soldier Missing or Captured

Sgt. Ahmed K. Altaie

U.S. Army Photo

Altaie, a 41-year-old Iraqi-born resident of Ann Arbor, Mich., was snatched off the street while he was visiting his Iraqi wife in Baghdad on Oct. 23. 2006. U.S. forces have conducted raids in portions of Sadr City searching for Altaie, who worked as a translator. The U.S. government has offered a $50,000 reward for information leading to his recovery.

"AMERICA SUPPORTS YOU" POSTAL SERVICE DISCOUNT

By Samantha L. Quigley
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Military families have long used the U.S. Postal Service's flat-rate shipping boxes to send care packages around the globe. A price break began March 3, 2008.

The discount applies only to the new "Priority Mail Large Flat-Rate Box," which normally carries a $12.95 price tag for shipping. However, when the 12-by-12-by-5.5-inch box is sent to an AFO or FPO address, a $2 discount applies, dropping the cost to $10.95.

Some of the new boxes carry the America Supports You logo. America Supports You is a Defense Department program connecting citizens and companies with service members and their families serving at home and abroad.

The boxes bearing the "America Supports You" logo are available only online or at select post offices near military bases. All flat-rate boxes are available for international shipping, though the discount applies only to the large flat-rate box, and only if it's being shipped to an APO or FPO address.

"THE MAIL MUST GO THROUGH"

Capt. Anthony John

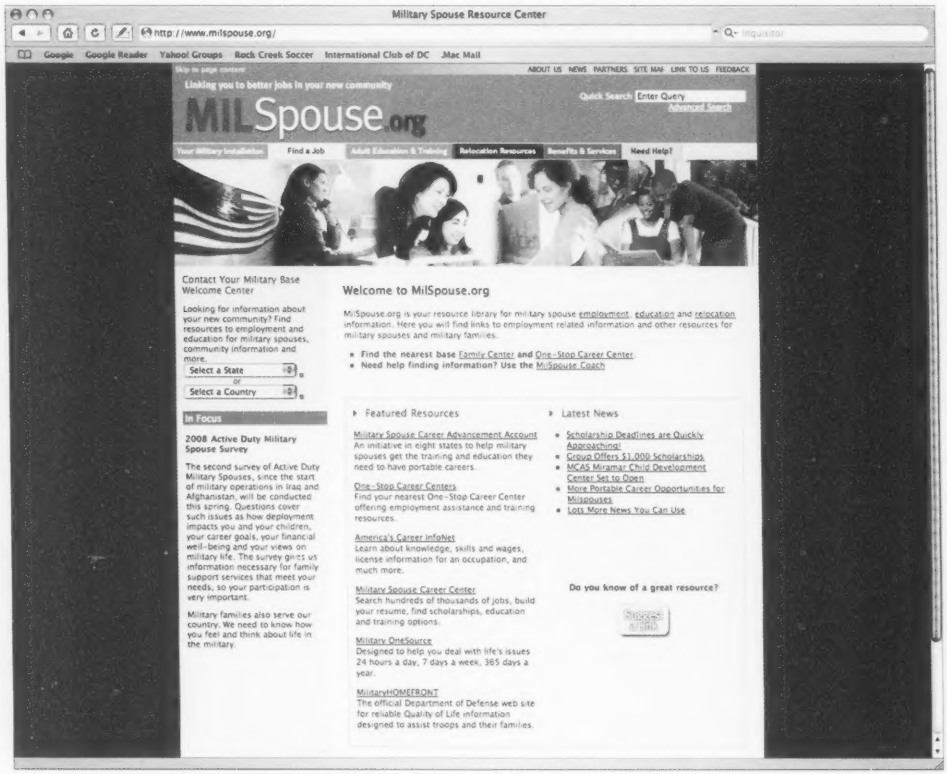
Five of the 10 Soldier 271st Human Resources (Postal) Detachment, Spec. Richard Velasquez, Spec. Jose Hernandez, Sgt. Quecha Perez, Staff Sgt. Robert Ortiz, NCOIC, and Sgt. Angel Morales wasted no time sorting the mail keeping with the time honored tradition"the mail must go through."

MILITARY SPOUSE EDUCATIONAL AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES EXPANDED

The Departments of Defense and Labor on Nov. 14, 2007 announced a joint three-year pilot project to expand educational and career opportunities for military spouses.

The Military Spouse Career Advancement Initiative (MSCAI) will be offered at 18 sites in eight states with large military populations, the departments said in a joint statement. According to the agencies, military spouses suffer an unemployment rate that is three times that of their civilian counterparts, and nearly 77 percent of them report that they want or need to work. In addition, the frequent moves required by the military often make it difficult or cost-prohibitive for spouses to establish long-term careers or meet state credentialing and licensing requirements.

The MSCAI would help by offering up to $6,000 in assistance to help spouses overcome some of these educational and credentialing barriers. Military spouses may apply at One-Stop Career Centers on or near Voluntary Education Centers at the participating installations. The two departments are jointly approving $35.2 million over three years to fund the effort. To see more, go to **www.MilSpouse.org.**



ARMY PROVIDES IMPROVED ONLINE SUPPORT TO COMMUNITY

What is it? **MyArmyLifeToo.com** serves as a "one-stop" knowledge center where Family members, Soldiers, leaders and Civilians can connect to their Army community and each other. With both public and secure pages, anyone can access to news, information and resources relevant to Army life.

Civilians can find out how to support the Army community and the mission.

MyArmyLifeToo also helps Soldiers and their Families communicate with each other in the online Army Family Community with easy-to-use, interactive tools such as the photo gallery, forum, chat and download center.

Why is this important to the Army? Technology is a vital tool for Families of deployed Soldiers. Multiple deployments are inevitable and not everyone has access to a local Family Readiness Group. Geographically dispersed Soldiers and their Families often feel disconnected from the rest of the Army.

MyArmyLifeToo helps build a sense of community through its various information sharing tools. It provides links to other web-based tools including the Army Virtual Family Readiness Groups, MilitaryOneSource, the Army Integrated Family Support Network and other FMWRC-sponsored sites providing access to the same comforts, assurances and sense of community found on a military installation..

MyArmyLifeToo is a single access point available to anyone, anywhere — no firewall, no sponsorship or common access card requirement — making it easy to use and accessible to anyone who has interest in Army life or a personal connection to a Soldier.

What has the Army done? By incorporating information about all Family Programs into one Web site, the Army provides Soldiers and their Families a primary place to access information about Army life. With specialized sections developed for active duty, guard or reserve Soldiers or Family members, staff members, or Civilians, **MyArmyLifeToo.com** provides accurate information about what military members or spouses can expect in their day-to day-lives and tools and tips for navigating their life as a spouse or Soldier.

Through **MyArmyLifeToo**, Soldiers and Family members can learn about support programs in plain language.

By incorporating information about all Family Programs into one Web site, the Army provides Soldiers and their Families a primary place to access information about Army life.

MY ARMY RESERVE LIFE

ARMY RESERVE JOINS IN ALL-AMERICAN BOWL

U.S. Army Soldiers and high school senior football players from around the country participated in the Army All-American Bowl, all-star football game held January 5, at the Alamo Dome in San Antonio, Texas. Among the 90 Army Soldiers selected to participate in this year's event were 33 Army Reserve Soldiers. Each "Soldier Hero" selected is a veteran of either Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom, as well as a recipient of a Bronze Star or higher military award.

Players were selected by a committee of national recruiting experts and placed on the East or West team. During this year's player selection tour, Army representatives, including local Army Reserve recruiters, presented a game day jersey before the player's peers, parents, coaches, athletic directors and principals. This important opportunity allowed the Army to communicate the important tie between athletes and Soldiers — their strength, dedication, teamwork and values.

This tie is strengthened by the Army Reserve's unique link to communities across the nation. Chief Warrant Officer 2 Randy Growall, one of the 33 Army Reserve Soldier Heroes, is an example

of that link. In addition to his service in the 910th Quartermaster Company in Ardmore, Ark, Growall serves as the head coach for an Ardmore high school football team.

"As a high school football coach, I have many young eyes on me everyday. I must display character and morals at all times," said Growall. "As a leader of young Soldiers I must also set the example everyday, all day, on how a professional Soldier acts, deals with adversity, sets goals, and stays hooked up until the job is done."

This year's Army Reserve Soldier Heroes represented a cross-section of America. A biography of each is available at **www.amy.mil/allamericanbowl/2008/bios.html**. They included a diversity of backgrounds and military and civilian job skills - demonstrating the integral role they play in ensuring the success of the Army and the nation.

"I have been blessed to live in a country that has offered me and my children freedom and opportunities I wouldn't have received in my country of birth," said Sgt. 1st Class Elsa Cardoza, an Army Reserve Soldier Hero and Mexican-American who serves in the Retention Office of the 63rd Regional Readiness Command. "I love this country and what it has offered to me, my children, and future generations to come."

Soldier Heroes like Growall and Cardoza are the strength of the nation - the ultimate instrument of national resolve - and represent the hundreds of thousands of Soldiers currently serving around the world. During the All-American Bowl week, Soldier Heroes and football players were paired and participated in a series of events together, illustrating their shared ideals of leadership, courage and strength on and off the field. In addition, Soldiers were honored during pre-game activities for their commitment and service.

"I am very proud of the Army Reserve Soldiers selected for the 2008 Army All-American Bowl," said Lt. Gen. Jack Stultz, Chief, Army Reserve. "Their military service has earned them the respect of the nation and the privilege to serve as Soldier Heroes. I am sure these high school football players will find no better mentors and role models when it comes to Army Values and commitment to the team."

Lt. Gen. Stultz and Command Sgt. Maj. Leon Caffie joined Army Reserve Soldiers at several events during the week, including an awards banquet hosted by the Secretary of the Army Pete Geren on January 4.

Army Reserve units and Soldiers played other significant roles in the event off the field. More than 20 Soldiers showcased their units' equipment and skills in the Army Strong Zone outside the Alamo Dome on January 4 and 5. In addition, Army Reserve Soldiers participated as key staff in the planning and execution of this event.

Maj. Hillary Luton

34 of the 91 Soldiers selected for the Army All-American bowl were Army Reserve Soldiers.

U.S. ARMY RESERVE HEROES

Meet a few of the Army Reserve Soldier-Heroes from Operations Iraqi Freedom, Noble Eagle, and Enduring Freedom. The Soldiers below were honored during the Army All-American Bowl on January 5, 2007 in San Antonio, TX.

MICHAEL HUGHES

Rank Specialist

Unit Assigned B Co 325 MI BN

Unit Location Bronx, N.Y.

Command/Installation MIRC

Title/Position Human Intelligence Collector

Civilian Occupation Legal Assistant

Number of Years of Service 10

Number of Deployments 2

Location/Dates of Deployments
1 Kuwait (Dec 2001 – May 2002)
2 Iraq (April 2003 – March 2004)

Unit of Most Recent Deployment C Co 104th MI BN, 3 BCT 4ID

Awards Received for OIF/OEF Service Purple Heart, Army Commendation Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary and Service Medals, Iraq Campaign Medal

Hometown New York, N.Y.

Family Wife, Theresa; five-year-old Daughter, Emily

Why did you answer the "Call to Duty?"

"I feel that it is my duty as an American to answer the call of our country no matter what it is."

GWENDOLYN HARMAN

Rank Staff Sergeant

Unit Assigned 3/319TH REGT (LOG SPT)

Unit Location Lancaster, Pa.

Command/Installation 3/319TH REGT (LOG SPT)

Title/Position Sr. Truck Driver

Civilian Occupation Correctional Officer

Number of Years of Service 13

Number of Deployments 1

Location/Dates of Deployments Iraq, 2003 – 2004

Unit of Most Recent Deployment Iraq, 2003 – 2004

Awards Received for OIF/OEF Service Purple Heart, Army Commendation medal

Hometown Bessemer, Pa.

Family Mother, Katherine Harman; Father, Wendell Harman

What is the most interesting thing about your time in Iraq/Afghanistan?

"Seeing how lucky we are as Americans to have the freedom, education opportunities, and superior living conditions."

ANDREW JACOB COLE

Rank Staff Sergeant

Unit Assigned B Co 328th Combat Support Hospital

Unit Location Salt Lake City, Utah

Command/Installation 2nd Medical Brigade/ Stephen A Douglas Armed Forces Reserve Center (SADAFRC)

Title/Position Emergency Room NCOIC/Platoon Sergeant

Civilian Occupation Civil Service

Number of Years of Service
7 Years Active
3 Years Reserve

Number of Deployments 1

Location/Dates of Deployments Iraq, Dec 2004 – Jun 2006

Unit of Most Recent Deployment 401st Civil Affairs Bn

Awards Received for OIF/OEF Service Bronze Star, 2xAAM

Hometown Glendale, Ariz.

Family Wife, Dawn Cole; Daughters, Angelica, Celeste, Gracie

Do you have a family tradition of military service?

"Both of my Grandfathers served in WWII. (One Navy, One Marines)"

VIRGINIA CABALLERO

Rank Sergeant

Unit Assigned 413th Civil Affairs Battalion

Unit Location Lubbock, Texas

Command/Installation 350th Civil Affairs Command, Pensacola, Fla.

Title/Position Headquarters Co. Training NCO

Civilian Occupation Customer Service Representative

Number of Years of Service 6.5

Number of Deployments 1

Location/Dates of Deployments Iraq, 2003 – 2004

Unit of Most Recent Deployment 413th CA BN & 431st CA BN

Awards Received for OIF/OEF Service Purple Heart, Army Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Hometown Abernathy, Texas

How has your Army service made you Army Strong? "I fear nothing but fear itself."

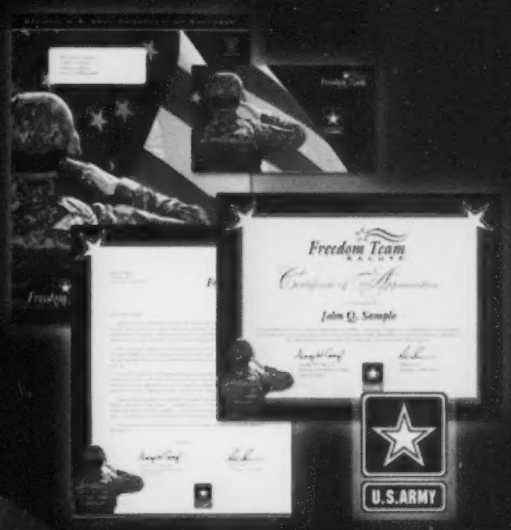
HAPPY 100TH ANNIVERSARY U.S. ARMY RESERVE

Help celebrate the tradition of honor and commitment in the U.S. Army Reserve by completing a commendation today!

As a Reserve Soldier, you can honor any number of U. S. Army Veterans. You can also share the honor with your parents, spouse and employer. It's easy and costs the honoree nothing! Visit www.FreedomTeamSalute.com to register and begin the commendation process.

Each Freedom Team Salute Commendation includes:

- Certificate of Appreciation and personal message of appreciation signed by the Secretary of the Army and the Army Chief of Staff
- U.S. Army decal
- Official U.S. Army lapel pin



FreedomTeamSalute.com

SHARE THE HONOR TODAY!

ARMY RESERVE KICKS-OFF 100TH ANNIVERSARY

100 Army Reserve Soldiers Re-Enlist in Iraq, Commemorating a Century of Service and Sacrifice

In recognition of the Army Reserve's 100th Anniversary, a special centennial re-enlistment ceremony of 100 Army Reserve Soldiers was held on 18 January, 2008 at the Al Faw Palace in Baghdad, Iraq. Presiding over the ceremony was Gen. David H. Petraeus Commander, Multi-National Force Iraq. The event kicked-off the Army Reserve's 100th Anniversary commemoration, which takes place throughout 2008.

"Today's ceremony allowed us to thank and honor 100 Army Reserve Soldiers who are reenlisting while serving in a theater of war," said Lt. Gen. Jack C. Stultz, Chief, Army Reserve and Commanding General, Army Reserve Command. "These brave men and women are America's true Warrior-Citizens, taking time away from their civilian employers, families and communities to serve their country."

Almost 22,000 Army Reserve Soldiers are mobilized today, including more than 15,000 supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom and more than 7,000 deployed in support of homeland defense.

"After 100 years, the Army Reserve has never played a more vital role in the world's greatest Army," said Stultz. "The Army Reserve Soldier brings important civilian skill sets into our mission in Iraq, ranging from medical support, transportation, engineering, civilian affairs, and a multitude of other critical functions."

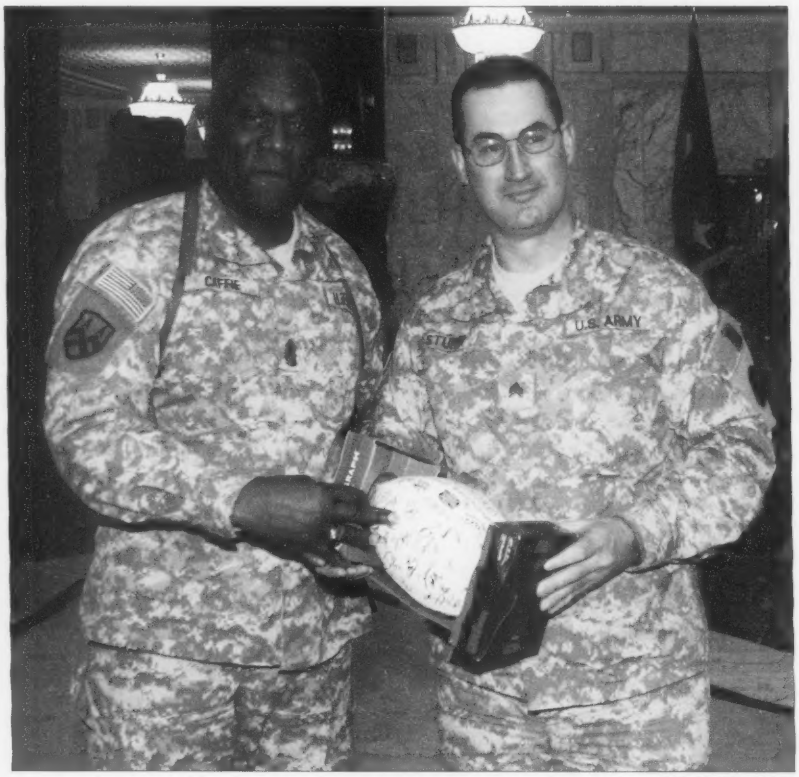
On April 23, 1908, Congress created the Medical Reserve Corps, later renamed the Army Reserve, from a group of 160 doctors formed to provide the nation with a reservoir of trained medical officers in times of war. Over the past century, the Army Reserve has significantly expanded upon this successful model that leverages civilian skills and patriotism.

Today's Army Reserve includes Soldiers who are professionals in a multitude of civilian career fields. Army training instills values and leadership that make them a more valuable and trusted employee. Conversely, their civilian training and job skills enhance the capability of today's Army.

Army Reserve Staff Sgt. Peter Vaughan was among the 100 Army Reserve Soldiers who re-enlisted in Baghdad. Vaughn works as a broadcast technologist in the Army Reserve and owns his own computer consulting company in his hometown of Palatine, Ill. "It is momentous to be in Iraq for the 100th Anniversary," says Vaughan, who is on his second overseas deployment with the Army Reserve. "I get to bring my civilian skills and background into our efforts in Iraq."

Army Reserve Sgt. Jonathan Britt, who also re-enlisted today, is serving in Iraq as a combat medic. He provides health care and combat medicine at all levels to both U.S. Soldiers and enemy combatants, and will be pursuing a new career in nursing, based on his Army Reserve training, when he returns to the U.S. The Army Reserve provides more than two-thirds of the Army's medical groups and brigades.

For more information about the Army Reserve and its 100th Anniversary, please visit the Army Reserve Web site at **www.armyreserve.army.mil**.



Master Sgt. Anthony Martinez

Army Reserve Command Sgt. Maj. Caffie, left, presents a football signed by the New England Patriots football team to Sgt. Eric Sturm, one of the 100 Army Reserve Soldiers who re-enlisted in Baghdad. Sgt. Sturm is assigned to the 841st Engineer Battalion (Combat) based in Aurora, Ill.

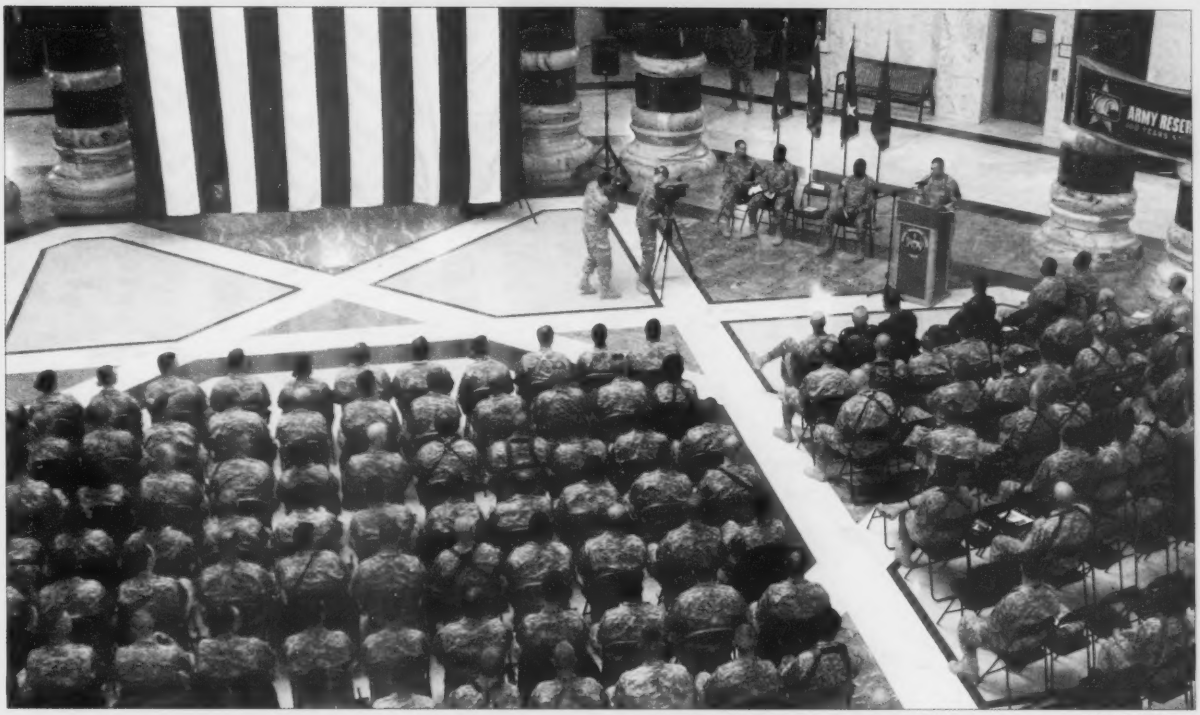


Photo: U.S. Army Reserve

Lt. Gen. Jack C. Stultz, Chief, Army Reserve speaks to Army Reserve Soldiers prior to their taking the oath of reenlistment on January 18, 2008 as a kick-off to the 100th Anniversary year-long celebration.

Photo: U.S. Army Reserve

(Front row, third from left): Command Sgt. Maj. Caffie, Lt. Gen. Stultz, and Gen. Petraeus join Army Reserve Soldiers in celebration after the 100th Anniversary reenlistment ceremony at Al Faw Palace at Camp Victory in Baghdad, Iraq.

RE-ENLISTING ARMY RESERVE SOLDIER PROFILES

On January 18th, 2008, 100 Army Reserve Soldiers reaffirmed their commitment to serving their country by participating in a centennial re-enlistment ceremony in Baghdad, Iraq. These 100 Soldiers, like so many others, are meeting the challenges of today's Global War on Terror, while supporting various missions at home and around the globe. In its 100th year, the Army Reserve celebrates its proud history and honors the Soldiers who make is possible. Below are just a few of their stories.

Staff Sgt. Casey Ray Bargar

Age 28

DEPLOYMENT

Bargar is stationed in Camp Anaconda, a large logistical base in Northern Iraq.

RESPONSIBILITIES

During this deployment — Bargar's third — he works in the Joint Operations Center (JOC), tracking all movements outside the wire and reporting on any significant acts or mass casualties.

HOME LIFE

Bargar's hometown is Titusville, PA. His home station is Pittsburgh, PA.

CIVILIAN OCCUPATION

At home, Bargar does civilian work for the Department of Defense on military weapons and equipment. He is re-enlisting so that he may continue to hold this position.

THOUGHTS ON SERVING IN THE ARMY RESERVE

"It gives me pride to say I serve those who cannot fight themselves."

Sgt. Jonathan Britt

Age 25

DEPLOYMENT

Britt is serving in Iraq as a combat medic.

RESPONSIBILITIES

He provides health care and combat medicine at all levels to both U.S. Soldiers and enemy combatants.

HOME LIFE

Britt is from Hope Mills, NC and graduated from North Carolina State University with a degree in agriculture business management.

CIVILIAN OCCUPATION

Before his deployment to Iraq, Britt worked at UPS, for his family's landscaping business and as a substitute teacher in NC. Through his experience in the Army Reserve as a combat medic, he has decided to pursue nursing school when he returns to the U.S.

THOUGHTS ON SERVING IN THE ARMY RESERVE

Britt is proud to be a part of the Army Reserve's 100th Anniversary kick-off ceremony. It means "commitment, determination, fortitude and multiple generations of Soldiers serving their time for our country."

Sgt. Corey Dewayne Smith

Age 26

DEPLOYMENT

Smith is currently serving at Camp Cropper in Iraq.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Smith works as a paralegal specialist, assisting the Staff Judge Advocate in advising high ranking commanders.

HOME LIFE

Smith is married to Kimberly Smith who resides in his hometown of Grifton, NC. His brother is a Staff Sgt. in the Army who is also deployed in Iraq.

CIVILIAN OCCUPATION

In his civilian life, Smith is a sales and marketing manager, but now sees himself pursuing law when he returns to the U.S.

THOUGHTS ON SERVING IN THE ARMY RESERVE

Smith says that he is "not done being an Army Reserve Soldier. The Army Reserve is a great family to be a part of and when it's all said and done — I know I contributed. I know I made this (world) a better place."

Staff Sgt. Endya Farris

Age 35

DEPLOYMENT

Farris has been in the Army Reserve for 14 years and is currently stationed at Camp Victory in Iraq.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Farris works as a human resource specialist in the Army Reserve, where she manages the administrative tasks for Soldiers, including their finances, awards, promotions and/or leave.

HOME LIFE

In her civilian life, Farris is a paralegal at Heath W. Williams, LLC in her hometown of Atlanta, GA.

THOUGHTS ON SERVING IN THE ARMY RESERVE

When asked about her experience in the Army Reserve, Farris notes that "it has enhanced both my professional and personal life — I have met and learned from so many people with various experiences."

Staff Sgt. Peter Vaughan

Age 25

DEPLOYMENT

Vaughan is on his first deployment to Iraq, and his second deployment overall.

RESPONSIBILITIES

He works as a broadcast technologist in the Army Reserve, and has extensive experience developing video products for PSYOP.

HOME LIFE

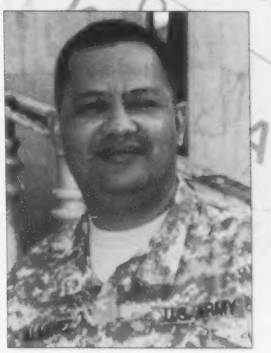
Vaughan's hometown is Palatine, IL. He is close to completing his degree in electrical engineering at Northern Illinois University, and is a member of the Society of Broadcast Engineers.

CIVILIAN OCCUPATION

At home, Vaughan owns his own computer consulting company.

THOUGHTS ON SERVING IN THE ARMY RESERVE

Vaughn notes that it is "momentous to be in Iraq for the anniversary," and that he is "proud to be serving" his country again.



Staff Sgt. Bernard Villagomez

Age 44

DEPLOYMENT

Villagomez is on his first deployment to Iraq.

RESPONSIBILITIES

He works as a Supply Sgt. in the Army Reserve.

HOME LIFE

Villagomez was born and raised in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, which was freed by the United States during World War II.

CIVILIAN OCCUPATION

At home, Villagomez is a fulltime student at Portland State University pursuing a degree in urban development and city planning.

THOUGHTS ON SERVING IN THE ARMY RESERVE

The gratitude he feels toward the U.S. has inspired him to want to give back by fighting to protect the many freedoms Americans enjoy. "I enjoy being an Army Reserve Soldier."

AR-RAP Top Performers

Pfc. Jason Cook earns $6K as Army Reserve Recruiter Assistants

EAST POINT, Ga. — Being in the right place at the right time has brought recognition to Pfc. Jason Cook, a human resource specialist with the 335th Signal Command, East Point, Ga. and checks for a total of $6,000.

Cook earned the bonus money for taking advantage of the Army Reserve Recruiter Assistance Program (AR-RAP) and recognition as one of the top recruiter assistants in his command.

The Command Retention Office encouraged Cook to sign up for AR-RAP. "We thought that he would be an excellent candidate," says Sgt. 1st Class Corey Daniels, career counselor with the 335th. "He is an up and coming hip hop artist who meets a lot of young people in his sphere of influence. What a great opportunity to show that you can serve your country and follow your dreams."

Since signing up for AR-RAP, Cook talked to two of his friends and convinced them to join the Army Reserve. Cook received a total of $4,000 for his recruiting efforts.

Cook said it was so easy. "I was in the recording studio and told everybody, Okay, we need to rap this up. I have to get back to Atlanta for "drill" and then my buddies asked me, "You in the Army?" "I replied yes, and I can get you in too."

Cook later made another $2,000 bonus for a total of $6,000.

"I encourage everyone who has not yet signed up and completed their online AR-RAP recruiting training to do so at **www.AR-RAP.com**," said Daniels.

Editor's note: the Public Affairs Office, 335th Signal Command provided information for this story.

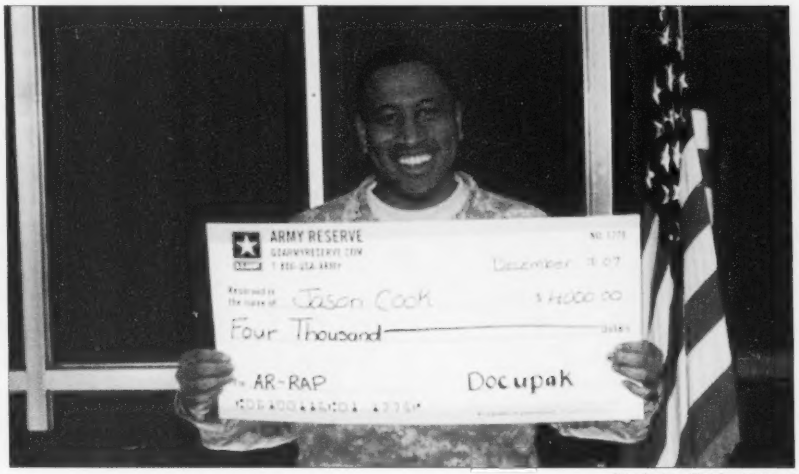


Photo Courtesy: 335th Signal Command

Pfc. Jason Cook is presented with a check for $4,000 for his AR-RAP recruiting efforts.

REGION 1
#1 Top RA: Kevin Moreira
Number of Accessions: 3
Number of Future Soldiers: 6
City, State: Raynham, Massachusetts
Unit: WZPEA1
Amount PAID: $4,000

*REGION: 4
#1 Top RA: Austin Lawson
Number of Accessions: 3
Number of Future Soldiers: 3
City, State: Huntsville, Tennessee
UNIT: WRKHA0
Amount PAID: $6,000

REGION 8
#1 Top RA: Kurt Schueller
Number of Accessions: 3
Total Number of Future Soldiers: 6
City, State: Bonduel, Wisconsin
Unit: W7ZPC3
Amount PAID: $3,000

REGION 9
#1 Top RA: Mary Henry
Number of Accessions: 4
Total Number of Future Soldiers: 9
City, State: Poplar Bluff, MO
Unit: WQ9AAA
Amount PAID: $4,000

REGION 10
#1 Top RA: Robert Tackett
Number of Accessions: 2
Total Number of Future Soldiers: 2
City, State: Columbus, OH
Unit: WQ0LA2
Amount PAID: $4,000

REGION 11
#1 Top RA: Efrain Hudnell
Number of Accessions: 3
Number of Future Soldiers: 5
City, State: Las Cruces, New Mexico
Unit: WQ1FAA
Amount PAID: $3,000

REGION 12
#1 Top RA: Ernest Gonzales
Number of Accessions: 14
Number of Future Soldiers: 37
City, State: San Antonio, TX
Unit: W8X5AA
Amount PAID: $14,000

Army Reserve Wins NRA Championship

By MAJ Dave Cloft
Army Reserve Service Rifle Team PAO

SGT Chris Gervasio

Champion USAR Service Rifle Team (left to right): Command Sgt. Maj. Neal Dickey, Team Coach, 1st Sgt. Jack Pardy, Maj. Dave Cloft, Sgt. Kris Friend, Pfc. C.J. Atkins, Master Sgt. Mark Bearnson, Team Captain.

When the smoke cleared the firing line at Camp Perry, Ohio, the U.S. Army Reserve successfully edged out the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit and U.S. Marine Corps Rifle Team to secure the National Service Rifle Team Championship. The last time the Army Reserve won this prestigious championship was in 1985. Six members of the Army Reserve utilized their preeminent marksmanship abilities to earn the National Championship. Firing members consisted of MAJ Dave Cloft, SFC Jack Pardy, SGT Kris Friend and PFC C.J Atkins, Coach SGM Neal Dickey and Captain, MSG Mark Bearnson.

The National Rifle Association Highpower Rifle Championships are held annually at Camp Perry, Ohio; a National Guard training facility on the shores of Lake Erie. Each shooter fires a total of 50 records shots, without sighters. The known distance course of fire consists of 10 shots slow fire in the standing position at 200 yards, 10 shots rapid fire sitting at 200 yards, 10 shots rapid fire prone at 300 yards and 20 shots slow fire prone at 600 yards. Only U.S. military issued or the civilian equivalent service rifles with iron sights are allowed for the competition. All members of the Army Reserve shooting team fired M16A2 or AR15 service rifles.

The NRA National Service Rifle Champions are awarded individual plaques with a picture of the Enlisted Men's National Trophy. The Enlisted Men's Team Trophy is a 44-inch-high bronze statuette of a Marine enlisted man. It was purchased by the voluntary contributions of the enlisted men of the Marine Corps and presented to the NRA in 1910.

The Army Reserve Shooting Team was created in 1969 by The Chief, Army Reserve MG William Sutton. MG Sutton had previously earned his Distinguished Rifleman Badge and strongly believed in marksmanship. During World War II he deployed cooks, supply personnel, and truck drivers to defend his unit. He learned that it was important for all Soldiers to know how to shoot well. Today the AR Shooting Team is composed of three teams; service rifle, combat, and pistol. The mission of the AR Shooting team is to assist in small arms marksmanship training, represent the Army Reserve and win National and Interservice Competitions.

All members of the US Army Reserve Shooting Team are Soldiers first, and train and compete when their normal Army Reserve duties allow. Soldiers interested in becoming a member of the Army Reserve Shooting Team should gain competitive shooting experience and attend the All-Army Rifle and Pistol Championships at Fort Benning, GA. Team tryouts are conducted annually in the spring, and new members are continuously selected from the Army Reserve to compete at the Interservice Championships at Quantico, Virginia as well as the National Championships at Camp Perry, Ohio. To obtain more information about the Army Reserve Shooting Team email Mr. Helmut Hein, Marksmanship Coordinator, USARC G7 at helmut.hein@us.army.mil.

ARMY RESERVE SHOOTER WINS PRESIDENT'S TROPHY

By MAJ Dave Cloft
Army Reserve Shooting Team PAO

After over ten hours of grueling competition and with temperatures over ninety degrees, Army Reserve SGT Kris Friend, a Combat Medic from Chesire, Conn. successfully dominated the 1,258 other competitors to win the highly coveted President's Trophy at the 2007 National Trophy Rifle Matches, Camp Perry, Ohio. It's been 20 years since an Army Reserve shooter has won the President's Rifle Match, SGT Lowell D. Johnson won the match in 1987.

The President's Rifle Match was first fired as a military rifle match in 1894 and has become one of the most important of all National Match events. The winner of the President's Match receives a congratulatory letter from the President of the United States, the President's Rifle Trophy and a presentation M1 Garand rifle. In 1904, Theodore Roosevelt began the tradition of providing a letter of congratulations to the winner and most U. S. Presidents since have honored this practice, including Presidents Clinton and Bush.

The President's Rifle Match consists of 30 records shots, and is fired without the aid of sighting shots. Each competitor fires 10 shots slowfire standing at 200 yards, 10 shots rapid-fire prone at 300 yards, and 10 shots slowfire prone at 600 yards. The top 20 competitors from the day are required to return to compete in a shoot-off event. These additional 10 shots are fired at 600 yards are added to the shooters previous score to determine the match winner.

The 100 top-scoring military and civilian shooters in the President's Pistol and President's Rifle competition are authorized to permanently wear the President's Hundred Tab. It's the largest tab in the U.S. Army. It also ranks first in order of seniority to the Special Forces, Ranger and Sapper tabs.

Lt. Cmdr. (ret) Web Wright
SGT Kris Friend

USARC SOLDIER-CHEFS SHARPEN THEIR SKILLS AT CULINARY COMPETITION

TEAM SHOWS THEY CAN COMPETE WITH THE ARMY'S BEST

By Timothy L. Hale
Army Reserve Public Affairs

FORT LEE, Va. – The old saying goes, "If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen."

The 12 members of the U.S. Army Reserve Command culinary arts team did more than stand the heat, they excelled in a number of categories during the U.S. Army Culinary Arts Competition held at Fort Lee, Va., March 3 – 14, 2008.

In all, the team garnered one gold, three silver and 17 bronze medals spanning 16 different categories. In addition, the team earned six honorable mentions.

"Through the challenges we've shown our excellence in different ways. Mainly it's the team members themselves who have shown their abilities to succeed in this culinary show," said team manager, CW3 Marc Morrell.

Looking like proud Olympic athletes, the team members strutted across the awards stage in Lewi Auditorium at Mifflin Hall bearing the fruits of their labor. With their medals clinking and clanking together, USARC team members cheered them on from their seats.

Winning a blue ribbon and gold medal in hot appetizers was Spec. Courtney Williams, E Co., 159th Aviation Brigade; Fort Eustis, Va. Spec. Williams' prize-winning appetizers consisted of every possible seafood and vegetable combination to tantalize the taste buds.

"The judge liked the fact that my appetizers looked very edible. He liked the overall difficulty level exhibited," said Williams. "He also reminded me how paying attention to little details can help the overall dining experience."

Spec. Williams entered the Army in 2002 and completed food service operations training in 2003. Since that time, he didn't have much of an opportunity to hone his culinary skills.

"I performed in the Transportation Express, an ensemble singing group based at Fort Eustis. After completing four years there, I left the active Army in 2006 and joined the Reserve.

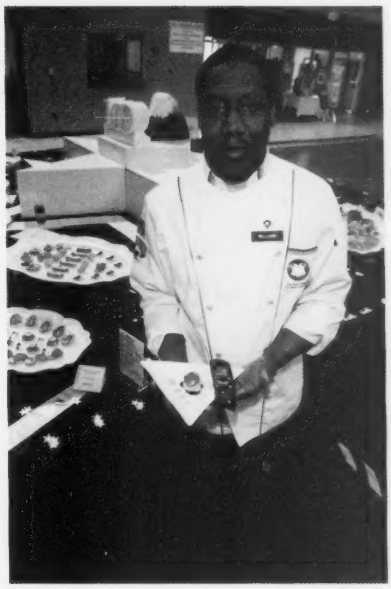
When he is not wearing the uniform, Spec. Williams is a chef at the Williamsburg Marriott at King's Mill just down the road from Fort Eustis.

This is the first year that Spec. Williams has entered the Army-wide culinary competition. He hopes that the skills he learns and exhibits here will lead to bigger and better opportunities with the Army Reserve, to include being an aide for a general officer.

"The best part about the competition is learning," he said. "I'll be able to show my Marriott co-workers that it's about the details. It's better to have a perfect plate late, than a terrible plate early."

Timothy L. Hale

Sgt. Joseph Parker, left, and Spec. Paul Harmon, plate up the main entree' during the Nutritional Hot Food Challenge at the U.S. Army Culinary Arts Competition at Fort Lee, Va. Spec. Courtney Williams is shown at right as he waits to take the finished plates to the judges.



Timothy L. Hale

Spec. Courtney Williams displays one of his hot appetizers which earned him a gold medal during the U.S. Army Culinary Arts Competition at Fort Lee, Va. This was the first time Spec. Williams had ever competed in the prestigious competition in his six year military career.

TOTAL MEDAL COUNT BY TEAM MEMBERS

Spec. Courtney Williams:

- Gold Medal — Six different hot appetizer plates, presented cold
- Bronze Medal — UGR-A Field Cooking Competition

Sgt. Joseph Parker:

- Silver Medal — Nutritional Hot Food Challenge
- Bronze Medal — Army Chef of the Year
- Bronze Medal — UGR-A Field Cooking Competition
- Bronze Medal — Cold buffet platter of meat, beef, veal, lamb or pork

Spec. Paul Harmon:

- Silver Medal — Nutritional Hot Food Challenge
- Bronze Medal — Junior Chef of the Year
- Bronze Medal — Student Team Skills
- Bronze Medal — Baron H. Galand Culinary Knowledge Bowl
- Honorable Mention — Six different individual hot or cold desserts, all shown cold

Sgt. Holly Dunn:

- Silver Medal — Baron H. Galand Culinary Knowledge Bowl
- Bronze Medal — Cake decoration
- Bronze Medal — Student Team Skills
- Bronze Medal — One buffet platter of fancy cookies, chocolates, or petit fours
- Honorable Mention — Novelty cake
- Honorable Mention — Centerpiece in tallow

Staff Sgt. Jeffrey McLaughlin:

- Bronze Medal — Cold platter of poultry
- Bronze Medal — UGR-A Field Cooking Competition
- Bronze Medal — Contemporary category, game hen, chicken or duck

Spec. Melinda Hodgin:

- Bronze Medal — Baron H. Galand Culinary Knowledge Bowl
- Bronze Medal — Student Team Skills

Sgt. 1st Class James Duff:

- Bronze Medal — UGR-A Field Cooking Competition
- Honorable Mention — One cold hors d' oeuvres selection, with a minimum of eight varieties

Spec. Nathan Goldsmith:

- Bronze Medal — Student Team Skills
- Honorable Mention — Baron H. Galand Culinary Knowledge Bowl

Sgt. Eric Harris:

- Honorable Mention — Two restaurant style platters

Timothy L. Hale

The 2008 U.S. Army Reserve Culinary Arts team shows off their heavy metal after winning gold, silver and bronze medals during the U.S. Army Culinary Arts Competition at Fort Lee, Va.

ARMY RESERVE RABBI GIVES OPENING PRAYER AT WHITE HOUSE

By Rabbi Bonnie Koppell
Special to Jewish News

Here's a phone message that's guaranteed to get a return call: "This is (Ploni) calling from the White House Chief of Staff's office. Please call back when you have a moment."

It was a month or so ago that I received such a call, setting into motion a whirlwind of activity.

As the fortuitous events unfolded, a member of the president's staff had read something I had written and decided that I would be the right person to offer the opening prayer at the president's meeting with a small group of Jewish leaders in honor of Hanukkah.

"I think," he said, "that the president would enjoy meeting you." And, if I wished, I could "stick around" for the White House Hanukkah party that evening.

Although the meeting was to be kept under wraps until after it transpired, I decided that my command chaplain at U.S. Army North needed to know that I would be meeting with the commander-in-chief, in uniform. And, of course, which uniform was a big question in my mind.

After conferring with the protocol office, he informed me that I was to wear a Dress Blue uniform during the day and a Mess Dress uniform in the evening. In 29 years of service, I had never had a reason to acquire the latter. Ensuring that it was set up just right required a significant amount of e-mail and phone conversation.

Each year, President Bush convenes a meeting of Jewish religious leaders prior to the White House Hanukkah party. This year, he invited individuals who could contrast their own experience living under oppressive regimes with the religious freedom we enjoy in the United States of America.

A dozen or so of us gathered in the Roosevelt Room, along with selected members of the president's staff. I offered my prayer, and, at the conclusion of the meeting, presented the president with a copy of the prayer book for U.S. military service members. I highlighted the passages containing the prayers for Hanukkah, the prayer for travel and the prayer for our country.

I gave him a folder with texts prepared by the American Jewish World Service that connect the message of Hanukkah with the genocide in Darfur, the classic story of Hanukkah with President George Washington at Valley Forge, and the words of the prayer I had written for the occasion.

At the conclusion of the meeting, we were ushered into the Oval Office, where the president offered a historical perspective on the office and posed for a photo with each of us. He was gracious and witty. As I approached his desk, he raised his eyebrows and said, "Colonel!" to which I replied, "Yes, sir." He thanked me for my service in Iraq, and promised to look at the siddur.

White House photo by Shealah Craighead

Rabbi Bonnie Koppell, far right, attends a Dec. 10 Hanukkah reception at the White House with President George W. Bush and first lady Laura Bush. At left is Koppell's mother, Sandy Koppell.

There were at least two significant moments in our conversation. The president was interested to learn that there are 25,000 Jews still in Iran and he pledged to work for their release.

Also, the president acknowledged that the Jewish community has reached out to and absorbed refugees who were forced to flee Muslim countries. He appreciated our perspective that, as the Palestinian people request reparations for the assets of refugees from Israel, so there are many Jewish refugees from Muslim countries who may be entitled to compensation for their losses.

In the evening, my mother and I attended the White House Hanukkah party. The administration takes pride in the fact that President and Laura Bush are the first residents to open the White House to the Jewish community for a Hanukkah celebration.

As we moved forward to have our photo taken with the president and Mrs. Bush, he thanked me again for my prayer and for the siddur. He indicated that he would review the siddur the next day.

It was a surreal experience to wander through the beautiful and historic rooms, enjoying fabulous kosher food and listening to the Marine Corps Band play traditional Jewish music. A special highlight was a visit with my former teacher Dennis Prager.

Since I was in my "Mess Dress uniform," many people inquired about my service record and asked to take photos with me. Truly an unforgettable experience.

Editor's note: Reprinted in part with permission from the Jewish News.

ARMY RESERVE GETS FIRST AGR CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN

By Marc McCormick
El Morro
Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico

FORT BUCHANAN, Puerto Rico — The assignment of Capt. Jésus Manuel Muñoz to Fort Buchanan marks a milestone in the Army and the Active Guard and Reserve. He is the first AGR Catholic chaplain to achieve this position.

"I am the first Catholic priest appointed to the AGR program. That is a great responsibility because I could be the key that closes or opens the door for the next incoming priests who may be appointed," Muñoz said.

Enlisting in the Army Reserve in March 1990 he was assigned to Company B, 35th Signal Battalion as a cable wire installer. But it was following basic that his mind turned to the chaplaincy.

"I started, at that time, to renew my relationship with God. When that happened, I had just broken my leg. I had a lot of time to think. The military was my world. I always liked the military. I was thinking that the injury would put me out. It was then I was thinking that someone was missing in my life… and I found out that thing that was missing was God Himself because I never considered that as an issue in my life," he said.

Becoming an Army chaplain became the goal of Muñoz's life. With help from his company first sergeant and his commander, Muñoz set about applying for the Army chaplain program, until he had a conversation with the commanding officer of Fort Buchanan, Col. Stephen Ackman.

Ackman recognized the need for a full-time Spanish speaking Puerto Rican chaplain for the Soldiers and civilians who work at Fort Buchanan. The possible availability of acquiring Muñoz dovetailed perfectly with that need. The path was not easy.

"The (Puerto Rican) Episcopal Conference asked my bishop to let me go to become a command chaplain," Muñoz explained.

Muñoz reflected on his path to the priesthood from his time in basic training.

"When I went to basic training, I started considering God's will in my life. At one time I never considered myself a religious human being. I was just a regular human… at 19, 20 years old just starting to build my life. I was 19 when I finished my basic training. I was Catholic and (at that age) I didn't know the church; I didn't know its teachings and what it means to be Catholic and then I started reading a lot. That's when I started taking some spiritual directions in my life," he said.

Marc McCormick

Chap. (Capt.) Jesús Muñoz (Catholic) is assigned to the Fort Buchanan Religious Services office providing Catholic Mass and other liturgies in addition to counseling services for all members of the community.

It was during basic training that Muñoz realized that it was difficult to speak to someone in his faith group, and — "I couldn't express what I was experiencing. That's when I started a dialogue with my bishop and he allowed me to become an assistant to a chaplain."

NURSE JENNIFER JOHNSON MOVES TO CHAPLAIN CORPS

Courtesy Photo

Chap. (Maj.) Jennifer Johnson leading a service in Tikrit, Iraq.

Jennifer J. Johnson is a nurse practitioner who thoroughly enjoys her civilian career in medicine; skills she brought with her when she joined the Army Reserve in 1985. But she felt something was missing; that perhaps nursing was a bridge to an even greater calling. In 2003, she was ordained as a minister and moved from the nurse corps to the chaplain corps in the Army Reserve.

Johnson mobilized for one year in July 2006. Twenty-one years after she first joined the Army Reserve, her professional and military careers came full circle when she deployed to Iraq in September 2006. As the chaplain for the military hospital in Tikrit, she provided pastoral care at the 46-bed hospital. There she saw first-hand how holistic care — taking of the emotional and spiritual well being of a patient helps physical healing.

Johnson always carried a Prayer Book for U.S. Forces with her - in the operating room, visiting patients or leading a congregation in prayers. She also provided spiritual healing to the medical staff. Her sense of duty to country by serving in the Army Reserve and her responsibility as a person of faith kept her focused. When she returned from Iraq, she was hired as the chaplain of a large university hospital.

L.A. POLICE OFFICER, FORMER AIRMAN JOINS ARMY RESERVE

By John D. Wagner
Public Affairs Office
63rd Regional Readiness Command

LOS ANGELES, CA — James West, a long-time police officer, confesses he is addicted to excitement. He won a medal for rescuing a woman from a burning building and has served on Air Force combat missions, refueling bombers over Bosnia.

He has even worked as a bodyguard protecting Tom Cruise for five years.

West, 48, who retired from the Air Force Reserve as a senior master sergeant in 2005, is a lieutenant in the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD). He just completed a new goal: joining the Army Reserve to become a Criminal Investigation Division (CID) agent.

"I like the excitement and the unknown (of being a police officer), he said. "If you overcome fears of the unknown, you build confidence and gain self-satisfaction."

Clad in his midnight blue police uniform and spit-shined shoes, West raised his hand on Aug. 29, 2007, to take his oath of enlistment at an in processing station here. West will be assigned to a CID unit in Bell, Calif., and will serve as a sergeant first class.

Sgt. II Barbara Barris, LAPD

Lt. James West serves as adjutant with the LAPD Counter Terrorism and Criminal Intelligence Bureau. He assists Deputy Chief Mike Downing in the administration of a $24 million budget and managing 240 employees.

Maj. Gen. Paul E. Mock, commander, 63rd Regional Readiness Command, is a retired LAPD lieutenant. In praising West he said, "Re-joining the armed forces is a natural for West," Mock said. "He, like so many of our Warrior-Citizens, is a patriot first. Selfless service is a calling and West epitomizes this."

West's ultimate goal is to become a CID warrant officer.

"I want to work security for the secretary of defense as a warrant officer at the Pentagon," he said. "I'm working in the unit right now to do what I want to accomplish. You can go for warrant after about two years. You function like Secret Service. It's fascinating to me to protect people. You have to have the best trained people who are cool, calm and collected."

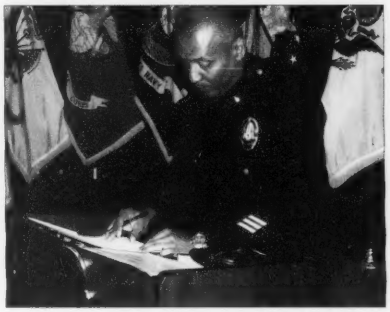
His enlistment and new assignment were a natural continuation for West. He has served as a police officer since 1985, first in Tucson, Ariz., and then with LAPD. He was an active duty Soldier from 1978 to 1985 and an MP during part of his service.

It's in his blood, says the NCO with close-cropped graying hair.

"We all have to give something back," he said. "There is satisfaction (to being a police officer).We do things people don't want to do. We go down those dark alleys in the night that people don't want to go down. People run from fire, we run to fire (disasters)..."

For West this was literally true. He received a Medal of Valor in Tucson for rescuing an elderly woman from her burning home in 1989.

"A party advised me a structure was on fire," he recalled. "We drove down there and there it was. The home was engulfed. There was a man who told me his wife was inside and that she was trapped. Fire was everywhere (inside) I had to get down on my hands and knees and crawled through the living room. I found her and carried out through the back (door)."



Sgt. II Barbara Barris, LAPD

Lt. James West signs his re-enlistment paperwork at the Los Angeles Military Entrance Processing Station. After his swearing-in ceremony, West became a sergeant first class in a local MP unit.

West served in the Arizona and California Air National Guard, and Air Force Reserve for 16 years and in inactive status for three more. He was a "boom operator" who thrust a 47-foot metal hose out of an airplane in mid-air to refuel another nearby aircraft. This included combat flights over Bosnia in 1993-1994 and over Iraq before the current war, to enforce the "No-Fly" zone.

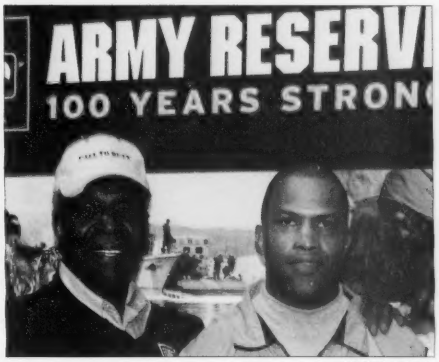
He retired in 2005 because upon promotion to senior master sergeant (E-8) he had no duty slot to step into.

"I promoted myself out of a job," West observed.

Air Force policy would not allow him to re-enter service after retirement. He therefore went to the Army. It was an uphill battle and his recruiters had to apply for a waiver for him to enlist. Ultimately one was signed by Lt. Gen. Jack Stultz, chief, Army Reserve.

The son of an Air Force technical sergeant who worked with Minuteman missiles, West serves as adjutant with the LAPD Counter Terrorism & Criminal Intelligence Bureau. He assists Deputy Chief Mike Downing in the administration of a $24 million budget and managing 240 employees.

CHIEF, ARMY RESERVE HONORS SERGEANT FIRST CLASS KEVIN WILLIAMS



SSG Melissa Garcia

AMB McEachin visiting Sergeant First Class Williams 19 OCT 07 at Walter Reed.

By Spec. Mekonya Cheefus
Army Reserve Public Affairs

Soldiers do not put on the uniform and perform acts of bravery for the recognition. They do it for their dedication to their country and their fellow Soldiers. It is, however, a special day when a warm thank you is given for your sacrifice.

Lt. Gen. Jack C. Stultz, Chief, Army Reserve, honored Sgt. 1st Class Gerald Williams of Co. B, 404th Civil Affairs Battalion, Fort Dix, N.J., as the guest of honor at the Army Reserve Christmas Ball held in Washington, D.C for his bravery and heroic actions while serving on his third tour in Iraq.

"I was truly honored," said an emotional Williams. "I was surprised because I didn't even know what was happening until he called my name. The person next to me had to tell me to stand while I received a standing ovation."

On January 26, 2007, Williams was a part of a four-vehicle convoy traveling in the Balad area of Northern Iraq. The mission was simply to travel from one forward operating base to another but there is never anything simple about traveling in Iraq.

The mission became fatal when Williams' vehicle struck a pressure plate. The blast blew out the engine, three tires and most of the right side of the humvee. His acute driving skills enabled him to maintain complete control of the vehicle. Instead of the humvee flipping over, Williams' was able to steer it safely onto the bank of a nearby canal. One Soldier, his commander, died instantaneously from shrapnel wounds.

"All my survival skills kicked in at that moment," said Williams, who has 21 years of military service and is a school police officer in Philadelphia as a civilian.

Williams was immediately airlifted to a hospital in Balad with spinal, head, and shoulder injuries as well as minor shrapnel wounds. Once stabilized, he was flown to a hospital in Landstuhl, Germany where he received treatment until arriving at Walter Reed Hospital on February 3rd.

The lives of three Soldiers were saved in that convoy thanks to Williams. He has been awarded the Driver's Badge, a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart for his actions that day.

"It made me proud to have my battalion commander tell me that if it had not been for my driving, everyone in the vehicle would have been killed," said Williams.

Williams currently remains at Walter Reed for care and expects to soon transition to receive "home care" back home in Philadelphia by his civilian doctor and local VA hospital. He has been very pleased with the level of care received and the amount of preparation made for his transition home.

"Treatment has been wonderful. My doctors and case manager have been second to none," said Williams.

All medical arrangements have been made for him by the Wounded Warrior Program which helps alleviate various issues that may be encountered on their road to recovery. The program can help him obtain full VA benefits while assisting them with tracking awards, providing financial counseling, career planning and employment opportunities.

After recovery, Williams plans to continue his career in the Army Reserve. His personal goal is to add the rank of first sergeant to his military repertoire to be placed right above the position of short-stop for the Schofield Barracks, 25th Infantry Div. in Hawaii, a sport he enjoyed before knee and ACL injuries put baseball to rest.

"My whole life has been military and I always strive to be the best," said Williams. "I am dedicated to defending this country, the Constitution, and the Army Reserve. I will continue". ✪

1st Sgt. Richard L. Jones

Sgt. 1st Class Gerald Williams, Company B, 404th Civil Affairs Battalion, Fort Dix, N.J., prepares to go on patrol from Forward Operating Base Warhorse, near Baqubah, Iraq.

FROM IRAQ TO NORTH CAROLINA:
FACE TO FACE, AFTER LIFE-SAVING SURGERY

By Karen Cimino
Staff writer
Charlotte Observer

Editor's note: The following story is reprinted with permission from the Charlotte, N.C. Observer. Col. Bill Giles is an Army Reserve Soldier with the 3274th.

Bill Giles and Dale Beatty last met three years ago in an operating room in Mosul, Iraq, after an explosion tore through Beatty's armored Humvee.

Their brief encounter on Nov. 15, 2004, made a lasting impression on both men, who reunited for the first time Wednesday at CMC-Northcross and reminisced over coffee, juice and bagels.

Giles' face was the last face that Beatty, an Army National Guardsmen, saw before life-saving surgery. And it was a face from home.

Beatty was an inspiration among the hundreds of patients that Giles, a nurse anesthetist with the Army Reserve, helped in Iraq. Even with part of his leg missing, the other one mangled and burns on his face and on one eye, Beatty was calm, Giles remembered.

Giles was worried about the possibility of brain injury, too, so he asked the Soldier where he was from.

"North Carolina," Beatty said.

"I said, 'Well, no kidding. I'm from the Charlotte area,' " Giles said.

"Me too," Beatty replied, adding that he grew up in Statesville.

After the surgery, Giles flew in a Black Hawk helicopter with a sedated Beatty to another medical facility.

Beatty was taken to Germany for further treatment after his emergency surgery, and always wanted to talk to Giles again. Giles, who lives in Huntersville and works at CMC-University, wondered how Beatty was.

Wednesday's reunion came about when CMC-University spokesman Lee Brower talked with Giles about his upcoming promotion to colonel and his return next week to active duty. Giles told him about Beatty, and Brower arranged the reunion.

Giles, who rarely saw injured Soldiers after they recovered, said he didn't know what to expect: Would Beatty be in a wheelchair? How was he handling his injuries? Would he remember their conversation?

Beatty walked through the door on two prosthetics. And Giles felt inspired all over again, he said.

"All of us have had patients you will never forget, and you are No. 1 for me," said Giles, holding back tears as he spoke.

As they reminisced, Beatty said he was seated in the passenger seat of the Humvee when an anti-tank mine went off under him. Fire and heat seared his face as it flashed through the vehicle. But everyone survived.

A Soldier in a vehicle ahead of his came to his aid, Beatty said.

"I kept asking him where all my guys were because I didn't see them.

Everyone got thrown out of the vehicle," he said. "I didn't want to scare him by screaming."

So Beatty, 26 at the time, tried to stay calm.

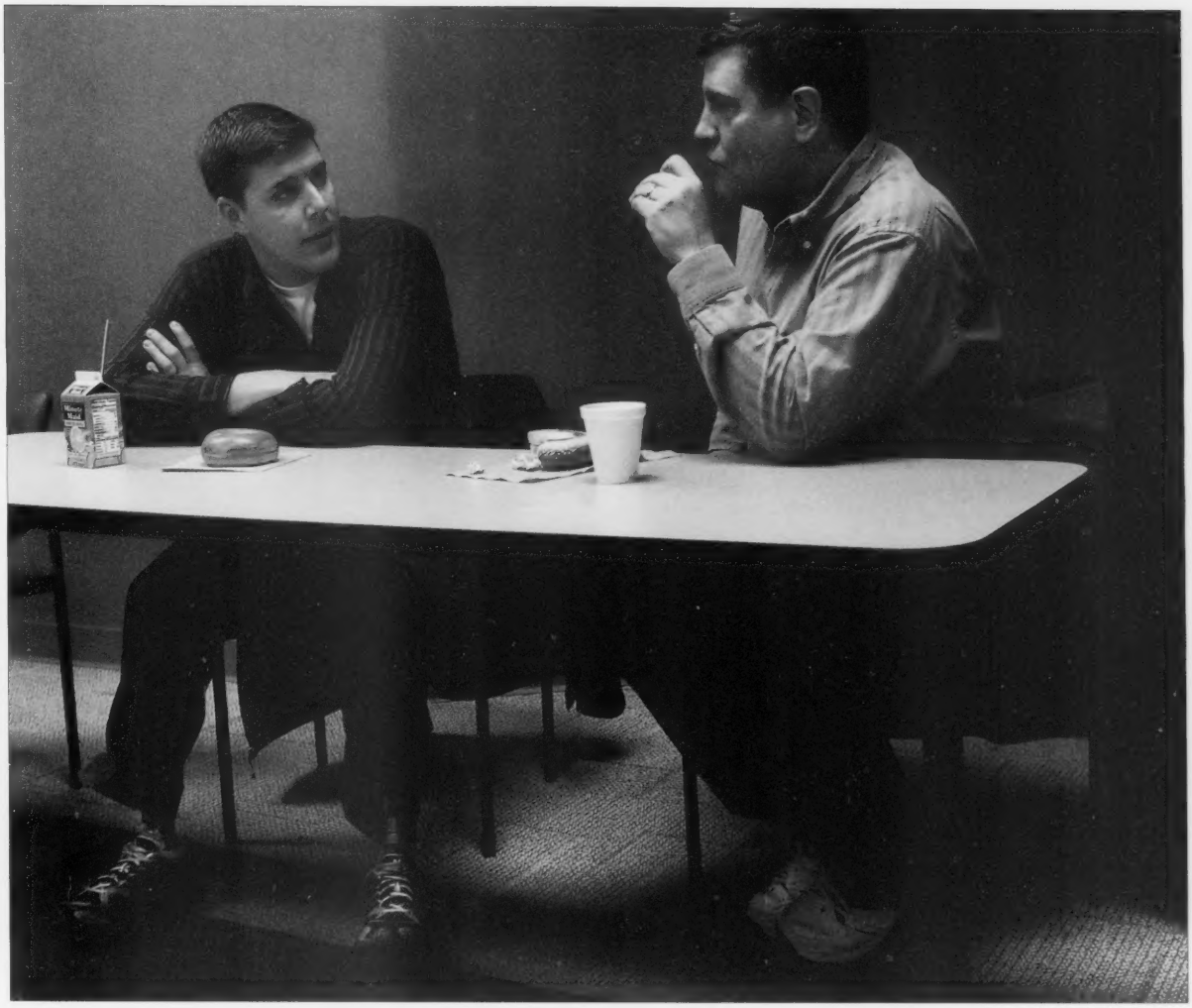
"I can remember the top of your boot was still there and the rest of your foot was just gone," Giles said. "If it was me, I would have been yelling and screaming."

But Beatty's heart rate was a reasonable 80 beats per minute, Giles remembered.

Beatty eventually went to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., where he remained for about a year recovering from his injuries. He was featured in a front-page Observer article on Jan. 18, 2005.

Giles said he saw a photo of Beatty with President Bush and first lady Laura Bush in the Army Times, and was proud he had helped him survive.

"Everyone wants to make a difference in their life. Being in Iraq and taking care of wounded Soldiers, you feel like you've done something." — Col. Bill Giles; U.S. Army Reserve nurse anesthetist



John Simmons, Charlotte Observer

Nurse anesthetist Col. Bill Giles (right) of Huntersville and Dale Beatty, a combat veteran patient from Statesville, who last met on an operating room table in Mosul, Iraq, reunite for the first time since their intense meeting in 2004.

Beatty said the hardest thing has been knowing how much stress his wounds caused his family because he couldn't do anything about it.

Beatty was about 6 feet 2 inches tall before the blast, and now stands about 5 feet 11. He said he can adjust his prosthetics to his original height when he's ready, but just hasn't done it yet.

He's been busy, working hard just to learn to walk and do many of the things he loved before being wounded, he said. He is playing the drums again in his band, Southern Fried Musician's Association. In the fall, he rode his bicycle 26.2 miles in the Marine Corps Marathon in Washington, D.C.

Beatty is working again as a civilian contractor for the N.C. National Guard, and still living in Statesville. He's also director of community and military affairs for a nonprofit group, Project American Spirit, which plans to help build homes for wounded veterans starting this year.

"It's just made my day just to meet this guy," said Giles, who will soon begin serving three months at Tripler Medical Center in Hawaii.

It's guys like Beatty who inspire him to keep going back, Giles said.

"Everyone wants to make a difference in their life," Giles said. "Being in Iraq and taking care of wounded Soldiers, you feel like you've done something."

Giles said he wants to stay in touch with Beatty. He'll go see Beatty's band play this weekend, and he has invited Beatty and his family to come to Hawaii while he's there.

"You take care of thousands of patients in your career," Giles said. "The thing I remember about Dale was how calm he was, how devastating his injuries were and how he's taken it in stride in his life. He's just an inspirational guy.

A CONVERSATION WITH THE CHIEF

Editor's note: Warrior-Citizen magazine had an opportunity to discuss the role of the Warrant Officer Corps, often referred to as the "Quiet Professionals", with U.S. Army Reserve's Command Chief Warrant Officer 5 Jim Thompson.

Here's what he had to say about the importance of the Corps and how it relates to the Army Reserve.

1. How do you become a warrant in the Army Reserve?

There are two ways to become a warrant officer in the USAR. Usually an NCO who possesses the enlisted feeder MOS, exhibits the desired technical and leadership skill sets, generally between the sixth and tenth year of service is recruited by an Army Reserve warrant officer. Once the NCO decides to pursue a new career as a warrant officer, an application process is initiated. The Army Reserve Careers Division (ARCD) formerly Retention Transition Division (RTD) Special Missions NCO assists the applicant with the application process which includes the usual array of paper work, photograph and other supporting documentation. The applicant must also solicit letters of recommendation from a CW3, CW4 or CW5 in his/her chosen career field to solidify the application process. The application is sent to ARCD for review and then sent to the Proponent School where it is scrutinized by a senior CW5 to ensure the applicant meets the selection criteria established by the Proponent. Due to the exceptional civilian skills base possessed by our Army Reserve Soldiers, in many cases applicants who do not fully meet the military standards for appointment receive approval from the Proponent School based on those civilian acquired skills. Once the Proponent School approves the application, it is returned to ARCD and forwarded to the DA selection board that meets every other month at Ft. Knox, KY. After the applicant is selected for appointment as a USAR warrant officer, the real work begins. Warrant officer candidates must attend a rigorous four or six week Warrant Officer Candidate School (WOCS) at Ft. Rucker, AL; in some cases, with the approval of the candidate's Command Chief Warrant Officer (CCWO), the candidate may attend a reserve component course at a US Army National Guard (USARNG) Regional Training Institute (RTI) which consists of five (5) weekend training sessions and a two week active duty training session. WOCS evaluates the candidate's leadership skills to ensure the candidate has what it takes to be an officer in the twenty-first century Army. Upon completion of WOCS, the candidate is appointed a WO1 in the US Army Reserve. Once appointed, the new officer must attend Warrant Officer Basic (WOBC) which is similar to the training received by Branch Commissioned Officers at the Proponent School. WOBC can last from eight weeks to, in some cases ten months. A warrant officer must complete the entire certification process in two years.

The second method which applies in only a few cases is what is referred to as high school to flight school. This process applies to US Army Reserve Aviators. It is possible for a young HS graduate who possesses the requisite skill sets to graduate from high school and within twelve to eighteen months, be a fully qualified Army Aviator.

Active Guard Reserve (AGR) Soldiers may also apply for appointment as a USAR warrant officer the process is very similar to that completed by a TPU Soldier, however, the selection board meets semi-annually.

2. What role do you see the Warrant Officer Corps having with the promotion of the ARAP program?

Army Reserve warrant officers play a key role in AR-RAP. We are leaders of Army Reserve Soldiers and as such have a responsibility to not only actively recruit future warrant officers to replace the NCOs' we depend on for our success. In support of LTG Stultz's priority to build the Army Reserve, I consistently remind my officers of our responsibility to support and participate in AR-RAP. One of our CCWOs' is a full time AR-RAP team member who travels the Northeast training unit leaders and Soldiers in the process and virtue of AR-RAP. My direction to the USAR Warrant Officer COHORT is one for one replacement for each NCO we recruit into the ranks of USAR warrant officers.

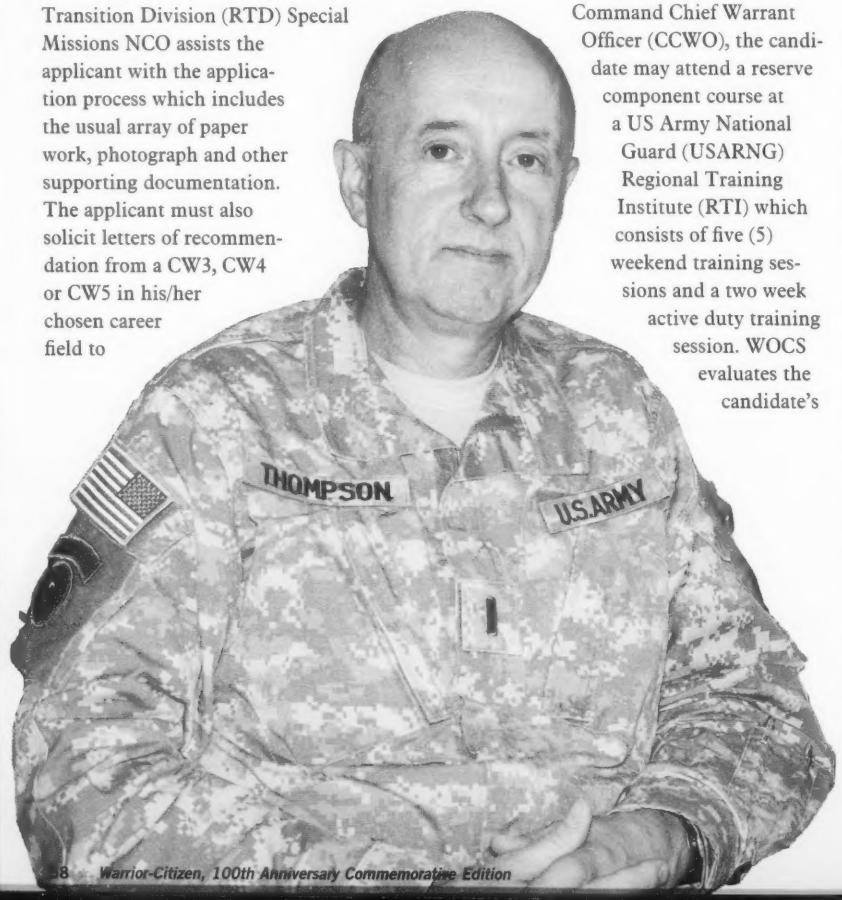


Photo: Sgt. 1st Class Derrick Witherspoon

3. Where are the shortages or vacancies in the Army Reserve for Warrant Officers?

Warrant Officer shortages in many cases parallel those of the enlisted and Branch Officer ranks. We are critically short officers in Military Intelligence, Engineers specifically Utilities Operation and Maintenance Technician, Air Drop Technician, Petroleum Technician, Mobility Technician Health Services Maintenance Technician, and believe it or not Marine Deck and Marine Engineer officers. Transformation has impacted our warrant officers in many ways. Units are being inactivated and officers find themselves looking for homes. The upside of transformation is that in many cases there are additional opportunities for officers to seek assignment in more challenging situations and more opportunity for advancement.

4. Can you talk about the role of Maintenance Warrant Officers?

Warrant officers play a key role in maintaining army materiel. We run the gamut from aviation to watercraft; Army Reserve warrant officers supervise materiel readiness of equipment across the spectrum of army operations. The following are specialties specific to maintenance operations in the US Army Reserve:

151A — Aviation Maintenance Technician — Manages personnel, supply, equipment, and facility assets to maintain and repair Army rotary and fixed wing aircraft. The Aviation Maintenance Technician supervises aviation equipment maintenance and repair shop, section, or platoon and directs maintenance and accountability of organizational test equipment, supplies and recovery equipment. The Aviation Maintenance Technician is a non-rated Aviation officer. Army Aviators also perform the duties as maintenance officers during their career although their primary duty as aviators is flying army aircraft.

210A — Utilities Operation and Maintenance Technician - Serves as an Engineer Operations Technician across the broad spectrum of engineer operations in both operational and non-operational units. Plans, supervises and coordinates construction of base camps and internment facilities in support of engineer construction operations. The Utilities Operation and Maintenance Technician provides engineering support and expertise to Deployable Medical System (DEPMEDS) hospitals, utilizing organic equipment such as power generation equipment, environmental control systems, water, waste, fuel and electrical distribution systems. Develops training strategies, reviews, writes doctrine, and presents lifting and loading, quarrying and rock crushing, asphalt concrete mixing and surfacing, water purification, refrigeration and air conditioning, water gap crossing, POL transfer and engineer electronic application. The Engineer Equipment Maintenance Warrant Officer supervises maintenance of non-engineer equipment assigned by equipment authorization documents. Inspects incoming equipment to determine repair requirements, assigns work to subordinates, and ensures quality of work performed by inspection of outgoing equipment.

948B — Electronic Systems Maintenance Technician

Establishes section safety and crime prevention/security programs that adhere to the policies, practices, and regulations associated with these programs. The Electronic Systems Maintenance Technician manages personnel, equipment, and facility assets for operation, repair, maintenance, and modification of radio, radar, computer, electronic data processing, controlled cryptographic items, television, fiber optic, radiological and related communications equipment and associated tools, test, and accessory equipment.

Today's Army Reserve maintenance officer is called upon to not only ensure the maintenance is performed correctly but must in many cases be ready to train Soldiers in the performance of maintenance operations, manage maintenance in units across the full spectrum of operations. In many cases the senior maintenance manager is the warrant officer assigned as the maintenance officer. Army Reserve warrant officers are managing maintenance in units ranging from company size elements to the magnitude of the challenge of a Theater Sustainment Command.

5 What is your overall vision for the future of Army Reserve Warrant Officers?

Warrant officers overall are taking on new and challenging assignments not traditionally associated with our COHORT. Due to the fast moving changes predicated by transformation and the constantly changing operational tactics in the current GWOT, warrant officers although by definition single tracked officers are taking on challenging roles not normally associated with those of the traditional warrant officer. As such I see Army Reserve warrant officers growing to meet the challenge of the 21st century and taking on the leadership challenges associated with the fast paced 21st century Army. My goal is to establish the ground work for a corps of officer technicians with the exceptional leadership skills to accept and excel in the role the army needs us to fill in the 21st century.

A major role change for modern Army Reserve warrant officers is that of the Command Chief Warrant Officer (CCWO). The CCWO is a recent and important addition to the command team at the general officer level. The CCWO is a member of the commander's personal staff and performs duties similar to those of the Command Sergeant Major (CSM). The CCWO is the senior advisor to the commanding general on matters affecting recruiting, training, retention and life cycle management of Army Reserve warrant officers. The CCWO is a key member of the commander's personal staff and the role and duties continue to evolve as we develop the positions and requirements to support the needs of the commander. Never before has a warrant officer been afforded the opportunity to work directly at the general officer command level enabling direct responsibility and oversight for Army Reserve warrant officers.

THE QUIET PROFESSIONAL

A TRIBUTE TO CW4 RAYMOND A. FRANK, U.S. ARMY

I am sure many warrant officers have had the opportunity to see in person the fine artwork done by Mr. Don Stivers. Specifically, the picture he created at the request of USAWOA in commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the Army Warrant Officer Corps. This artwork is titled "The Quiet Professional." Many are curious as to the origin of this title.

When I first heard the title, I was curious also. In the fall of 1993, I returned from Germany and involved myself in the business of our Association's headquarters. At that time most of the business portion of the arrangement was mostly finished with Mr. Stivers, and the title was a "done deal." At that time I did not pursue the source of the title. However, I had some rather fanciful theories of my own.

My ideas for the source of the name covered a wide range. I wondered if the title might have some historical connotation with our Corps. Or, I thought it might be a type of "dry humor," as many truly professional warrant officers whom I know are anything but "quiet." I thought that perhaps the title might be a subtle suggestion to those of us who tend to get "vocal" at times; we could retain our professionalism while presenting a situation, problem, position, or solution, in a "quiet," manner. I did not know the other work of Mr. Stivers, and thought that maybe the titles of his works ran in "series" with all the same starting word or pattern or words, similar to the titles of books by Robert Ludlum.

I found the actual answer to be interesting and want to share with you what I learned about the title. The term "quiet professional," as related to warrant officers, was first used by a guest speaker at a recent Annual Meeting of the Members. Major General Jack Keane, Commander, 101st Division (Air Assault), addressed the membership at the meeting held in 1992 at Fort Campbell. General Keane used the words "quiet professional" as he talked about warrant officers, and specifically applied that title to a warrant officer with whom he was personally acquainted.

That warrant officer served in the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, and daily displayed "quiet professionalism." Through his performance and manner, this warrant officer established a reputation of excellence for himself and set a standard for other warrant officers and the Corps. This warrant officer was a Master Army Aviator who had excelled in many demanding positions throughout his career. He had served as IP, safety officer, maintenance officer, etc. etc. He was qualified on several Army aircraft, but his love was the utility helicopter; UH1 and UH60 in its various configurations. Indeed, this warrant officer was highly skilled, highly qualified, and highly professional.

After learning this, I recalled that I had met this warrant officer several years ago. Initially, I was not sure if it was at an Annual Meeting, or if it was in USAWOA activities of the European Region. My memory has since been refreshed that it was in the European Region in the early 1980's. However, I clearly remember that at the times of our meetings, being impressed by his personal bearing and professional manner, in both business and informal settings. I am told that the vast number of those with whom he worked, or shared social occasions, also developed similar admiration and friendship for him. The warrant officer of whom General Keane spoke, served as a pilot in command of a MH-60 on October 3, 1993, in Mogadishu, Somalia. In performance of the mission and his duties, that warrant officer was shot down and killed, paying the ultimate price in service to the Nation. The name of this warrant officer was CW4 Raymond A. Frank, U.S. Army; "The Quiet Professional."

Based on an article by Ray Bell in the June 1995 USAWOA Newsletter.

ARMY RESERVE DEPLOYMENTS

AS OF 21 MAR 08

TOTALS

PACOM	SOUTHCOM	CENTCOM	AFRICOM	EUCOM
86	6	15,526	13	424

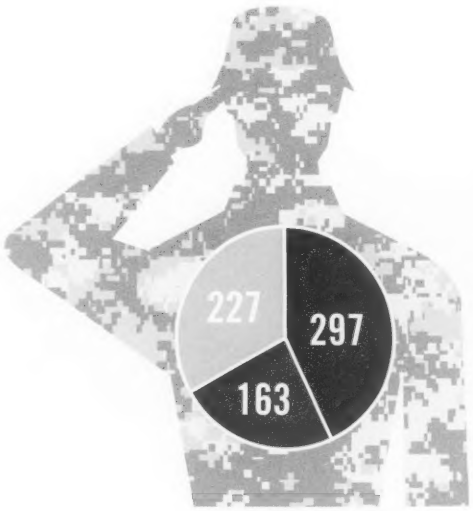
OCONUS DEPLOYMENTS	16,055	*8% of Army Reserve*
CONUS DEPLOYMENTS	8,249	*4% of Army Reserve*
TOTAL SOLDIERS DEPLOYED	24,303	*12% of all Army Reserve Soldiers*

SOURCE: MDIS/SELRES
Does not include IRR and IMA Soldiers

TRANSFORMATION

TRANSFORMING THE U.S. ARMY RESERVE

As the Army Reserve continues to transform a number of unit activations, conversions and inactivations will take place during the next three years. Here is a snapshot of how many units will be affected by transformation.



ACTIVATIONS

CONVERSIONS

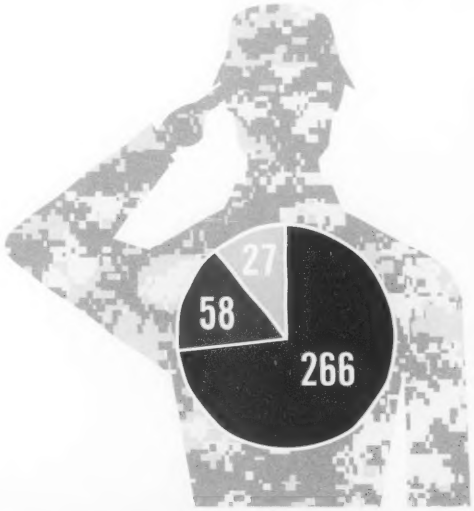
KEY

Numbers of units affected during each fiscal year.

- FY 2008
- FY 2009
- FY 2010

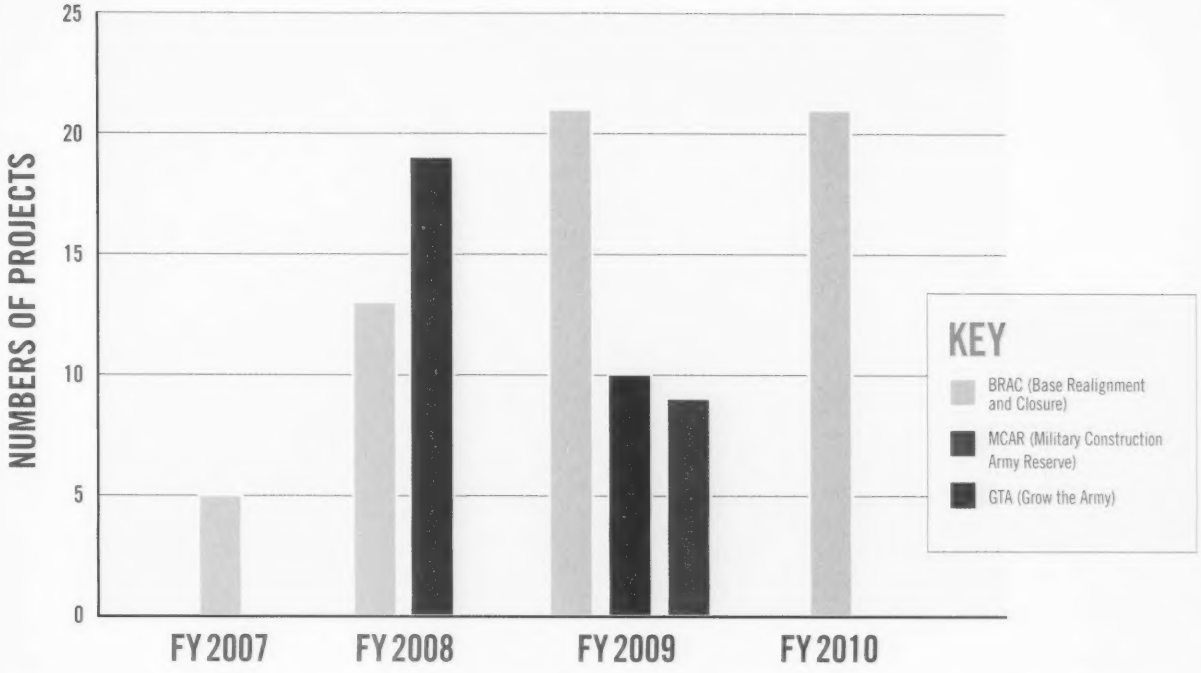
SOURCE: OCAR/Structure and Manpower Allocation System

HQUSARC PAO GRAPHIC: Timothy L. Hale



INACTIVATIONS

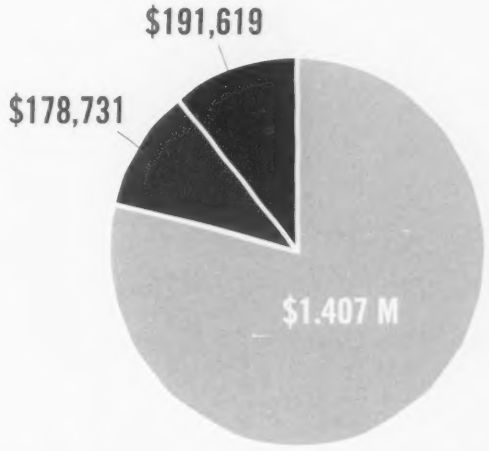
U.S. ARMY RESERVE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS
(FY 2007 – FY 2010)



PROJECTS BY STATES/TERRITORIES

Alabama	1	North Carolina	2
Arkansas	6	North Dakota	1
California	6	New Hampshire	1
Connecticut	1	New Jersey	4
Delaware	1	Nevada	1
Georgia	1	New York	7
Hawaii	1	Ohio	1
Idaho	1	Oklahoma	3
Illinois	1	Pennsylvania	7
Kansas	1	Puerto Rico	4
Kentucky	2	Rhode Island	1
Louisiana	1	Tennessee	2
Massachusetts	2	Texas	13
Meryland	1	Vermont	2
Michigan	2	Washington	4
Missouri	2	Wisconsin	3
Montana	2		

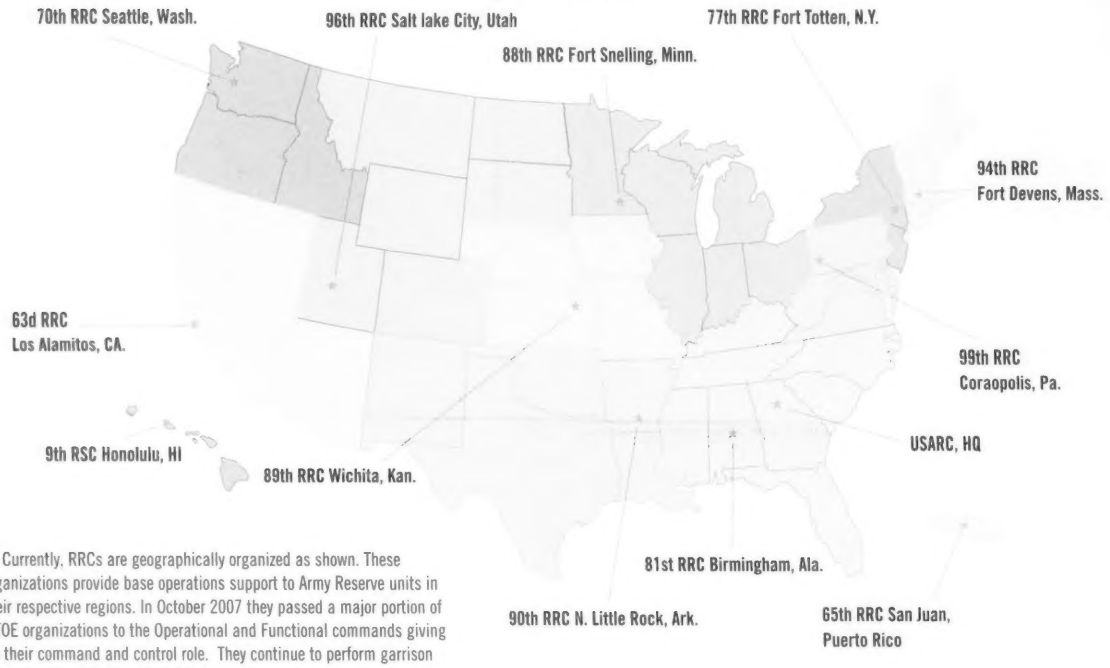
CONSTRUCTION COSTS



SOURCE: HQDA/ACSIM
HQUSARC PAO GRAPHIC: Timothy L. Hale

REGIONAL READINESS COMMANDS (CURRENT)

AS OF 15 JAN 08



Currently, RRCs are geographically organized as shown. These organizations provide base operations support to Army Reserve units in their respective regions. In October 2007 they passed a major portion of MTOE organizations to the Operational and Functional commands giving up their command and control role. They continue to perform garrison type support until their disestablishment dates.

REGIONAL SUPPORT COMMANDS

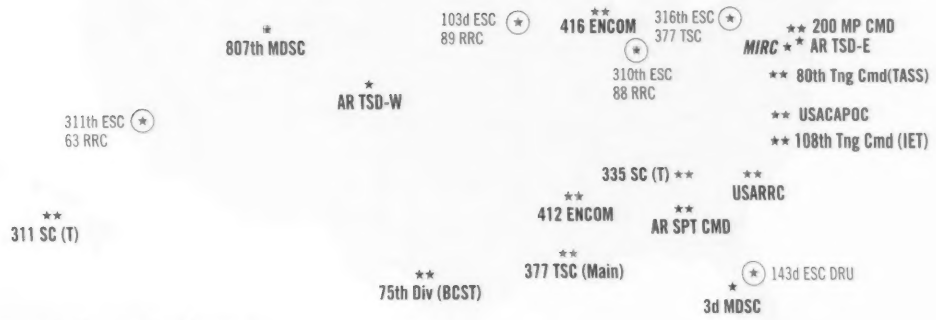
AS OF 15 JAN 08

We have established in carrier status four Regional ReadinessSustainment Commands (RRSCs) that will provide garrison type support to Army Reserve units, Soldiers and facilities in their defined geographical area after all RRCs are disestablished. The effective date for these organizations is September 2008.

BOD: Building Occupancy Date

OPERATIONAL & FUNCTIONAL COMMANDS

AS OF 15 JAN 08



This slide represents the Operational and Functional Commands as they exist today. Much of the structure is on the east coast and thins dramatically across the country toward the west. The Leadership is considering ways to put more units in the west.

★ Operational Commands

★ Functional Commands

RRCS FUTURE STRUCTURE

AS OF 15 JAN 08

70th RRC
Seattle, Wash.
301 CSB(ME)
Fort Lewis, Wash.

96th RRC
Salt Lake City, Utah
96th Sus Bde
Salt Lake City, Utah

88th RRC
Fort Snelling, Minn.
372d Eng Bde
Fort Snelling, Minn.

77th RRC
Flushing, N.Y
77th Sus Bde
Fort Dix, N.J.

800th MP Bde
Los Alamitos, Calif.
63d RRC
Los Alamitos, Calif.

302d CSB(ME)
Westover, Mass.
94th RRC
Fort Devens, Mass.

300th Sus Bde
Oakdale, Pa.
99th RRC
Oakdale, Pa.

MP Bde - Military Police Brigade

CSB(ME) - Combat Support Brigade (Maneuver Enhancement)

Sus Bde - Sustainment Brigade

Eng Bde - Engineer Brigade

RSG - Regional Support Group

65th RRC
San Juan, Puerto Rico
166th RSG
San Juan, Puerto Rico

89th Sus Bde
Wichita, Kan.
89th RRC
Wichita, Kan.

90th Sus Bde
N. Little Rock, Ark.
90th RRC
N. Little Rock, Ark.

RSG
Birmingham, Ala.
81st RRC
Birmingham, Ala.

All RRC will disestblish by 2010. The overall transformation plan will better align our units with the Army Campaign Plan and modular transformation initiatives that will support operationalizing the Army Reserve and provide more combat support and combat service support units to the force.

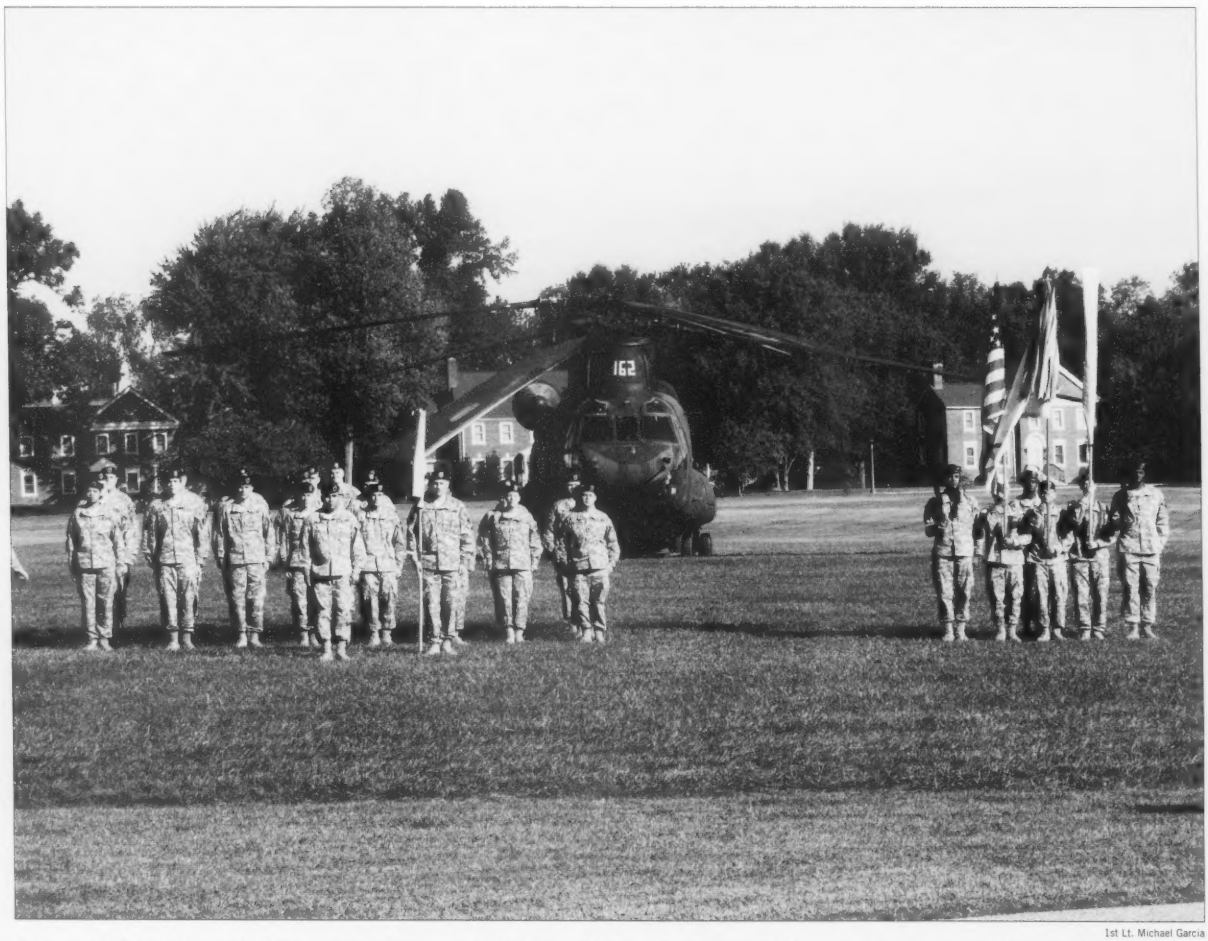
11TH AVIATION COMMAND ACTIVATION CEREMONY

By 1st Lt. Michael Garcia
Public Affairs Office
11th Aviation Command

FORT KNOX, Ky. — A new chapter in Army Reserve aviation began on Sept. 16, 2007 when the 11th Aviation Command held an activation ceremony at Fort Knox. The unit is commanded by Brig. Gen. Matthew Matia.

The new unit consists of 117 Army Reserve Soldiers and civilians including 57 senior full time staff members (Active-Guard-Reserve) and 13 civilian military technicians grade GS-7 to GS-13. The command is responsible for peacetime management of more than 3,700 aviation Reserve Soldiers to include one brigade headquarters and eight aviation battalions located throughout the United States.

The command is also responsible for managing the training and employment of AH-64 Apache Longbow attack helicopters, UH-60 Blackhawk assault helicopters, CH-47 Chinook medium lift helicopters, C-12 and a UC-35 fixed wing aircraft throughout United States. During deployment, the headquarters will function as a theater aviation command.



1st Lt. Michael Garcia

Soldiers of the 11th Aviation Command conduct their activation ceremony on Sept. 16, 2007 at Fort Knox, Ky. Within the command's inventory are the CH-47 medium lift helicopters (shown).

SDDC SETS HISTORIC MILESTONE WITH DSC STAND UP

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — On Feb. 2, 2008, the Army Reserve Deployment Support Command (DSC) presented its colors during its stand-up ceremony in Birmingham, Ala. Maj. Gen. Kathleen M. Gainey, commander, Surface Deployment and Distribution Command (SDDC), and Maj. Gen. Harry J. Philips, Jr., commander, 377th U.S. Army Theater Sustainment Command (TSC), conducted the activation ceremony. Col. Janet Cobb accepted the colors as the first commander of the Army Reserve DSC. The DSC will support SDDC operational missions worldwide and have their Army Reserve command affiliation through the 377th TSC.

The mission of the DSC is command, control and technical supervision of SDDC-aligned Army Reserve units performing terminal, rail, and deployment/ distribution support missions and functions. It also provides technical training and readiness oversight to all Army units performing terminal, rail deployment/ distribution support, movement control, and watercraft missions and functions. The Technical Training and Readiness Oversight mission of the DSC is to ensure all Army Reserve mobility units are functionally trained.

Gainey followed her two predecessors in working the DSC issue and is pleased to have the new command come to fruition. "The DSC brings great new synergy to SDDC and its Army Reserve capability," said Gainey. "Having one headquarters with technical training and readiness oversight of Army Reserve units ensures that our units are trained to standard and are operationally ready for the unique missions of distribution support and port operations."

Philips welcomed the DSC as the newest 0-7 command to the 377th. He has worked the DSC issue for a number of years. "The DSC is an integral part of our nation's global force strategy," said Philips. "It will enhance our ability to base units in the continental United States and rapidly deploy them where and when needed in support of SDDC and USTRANSCOM's missions. In addition, it furthers the transformation of the Army Reserve by functionally aligning like units under one commander to ensure a constantly high degree of readiness."

The DSC existed previously as an active component unit. Established at Fort Eustis, Va., on Oct. 1, 1998, the command was formed by consolidating the mission, functions and geographic area of responsibility of the (then-named) Military Traffic Management Command's (MTMC) former Eastern and Western Area Commands with headquarters at the Military Ocean Terminal Bayonne, N.J., and Oakland Army Base, Calif. In 2001, MTMC reorganized into a single operating headquarters split-based at Alexandria and Fort Eustis, Va. MTMC concurrently stood up its Operations Center at Fort Eustis and deactivated the DSC on Nov. 7, 2001. MTMC is known today as SDDC.

The creation of the Army Reserve DSC is part of the larger Army transformation effort. Planning for the DSC has been ongoing since the early part of the decade. In 2005, Gen. Norton Schwartz, USAF, commander, USTRANSCOM, sent a memo to Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Richard Cody that stated his objective for "...establishment of a Functional Readiness Command within SDDC to perform training and readiness oversight of all surface mobility forces..." SDDC immediately began work on the organization's concept plan, which the Department of the Army subsequently approved.

The new unit will command and control four transportation groups, 12 deployment and distribution battalions and one railway operation battalion.

Through the Army transformation process, SDDC restructured former transportation terminal brigades/ battalions and deployment support brigades to the new configurations. The DSC will have more than 2,400 Army Reserve Soldiers assigned. The DSC headquarters has approximately 62 officers, six warrant officers and 55 enlisted Soldiers.

Unique is the DSC's relationship with MTOE units such as port supervision teams, terminal supervision teams and automated cargo documentation teams to the DSC's 12 deployment and distribution battalions to augment port operations.

SDDC is headquartered at Scott Air Force Base, Ill., and the 377th Theater Sustainment Command is located at the Belle Chasse Naval Air Station in New Orleans, La.

Courtesy Photo

Having joined with Maj. Gen. Kathy Gainey in unfurling the new Army Reserve Deployment Support Command colors, Maj. Gen. Harry J. Philips, Jr. prepares to turn them over to Col. Janet Cobb, DSC Commander. 377th TSC Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Meehan stands at the right.

FORT HUNTER LIGGETT ESTABLISHES TRAINING CENTER

By Amy Phillips
Public Affairs Office
Combat Support Training Center

FORT HUNTER LIGGETT, Calif. — The U.S. Army Reserve Command is continually developing more missions and streamlining its efforts to prepare Army Reserve Soldiers for their increasing role in the total force. One of several new missions is the establishment of four Regional Training Centers (RTC) to be stationed across the nation.

Task Force Genesis was activated at Fort Hunter Liggett (FHL) to establish the very first RTC. The Task Force hit the ground running and has already conducted its first rotation with more than 200 Soldiers. The RTCs at Fort Dix and Fort McCoy are scheduled to be up and running in the spring. A fourth location has not been determined.

The new RTC training concept is designed to host individual and small unit training. Their mission is to train and certify Soldiers before they arrive at their mobilization site which reduces training time spent during actual mobilization period and allows for units to deploy quicker and get more "boots on the ground" time in theater. This concept was developed from lessons learned by leaders who witnessed flaws in recent mobilizations for Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

The ever increasing importance of the Reserve's role to provide combat support and combat service support units to the war effort is clearly visible in today's Global War on Terror. Units going through the Combat Support Training Centers (CSTC) and RTCs will not only gain valuable training experiences but also develop unit cohesiveness.

In the last couple of years, USARC has directed four missions to be stationed at the first ever CSTC. Others are planned at Fort Dix and Fort McCoy to cover Reserve training at other regions of the country.

The CSTC mission was established in 2005 to provide a training site for Reserve units to conduct large scale collective training during Year 3 of 5 in the Army Reserve rotational deployment concept. Approximately 4,000 Soldiers are trained per rotation with the Army Reserve gearing up to two rotations per year. FHL and Camp Parks (CP) has already hosted many large scale exercises such as Pacific Survivor 2006, Pacific Warrior 2007, Essayons 2006 and 2007, and Golden Medic 2006 and 2007.

The Army School System Training Center (TTC) institutional/school house training operated by the 80th TTC at FHL and 104th Division at CP; at least 500 Soldiers are trained at any given time throughout the year at each garrison.

Training Readiness Platform (TRP) missions are the collective unit training and Warrior exercises operated by the 91st Division. Approximately 4,000 Soldiers are trained per rotation with the Army Reserve gearing up to two rotations per year.

The RTC mission trains and certifies Soldiers before they arrive at their mobilization site.

These new missions are driving a flurry of activity to support the increased Army training at FHL. One organization seeing a significant increase in activity is the Equipment Concentration Site 170 (ECS) at FHL that has received almost 1,600 pieces of equipment in 2007, putting their current equipment total to more than 4,000. According to the ECS Supervisor, Gregg Charvoz, 1,000–2000 more pieces of equipment are scheduled to arrive in 2008. Ultimately, by 2009 ECS-170 should have about 7,000–8,000 pieces of equipment to manage. Like the Installation, the ECS has an urgent need to hire more personnel and fast.

It is no secret that things are booming at the CSTC. In FY07, FHL had 550,000 training days and that number is expected to increase to 700,000 in FY08; at CP, there were 98,000 training days in FY07 and 107,800 are expected for FY08.

In addition to all of the above training, the Navy is using the CSTC/FHL for their Sea Bee readiness rotations which consists of three 30-day rotations, each bringing about 1,500 Sailors. CP will also have new National Guard tenants sometime in 2008. Many other military and government agencies also use both garrisons routinely for their training activities.

"We are excited to welcome another mission that will make our Soldiers Army Strong. The CSTC stands by to support and defend those working, training and living at our installation," said Col. Kevin Riedler, CSTC commander.

2nd Lt. Antony Billes

Real Iraqis were contracted to portray villagers to engage Soldiers at a traffic checkpoint which tested the Soldiers' ability to work with an interpreter and civilians on the battlefield.

Mark A. Schulz

Col. Garth Anderson views the rolling of the flag for the 755th Postal Company as Sgt. 1st Class Wanda Hadley holds the flag for Sgt. 1st Class Melanie Torres.

755TH AG COMPANY (POSTAL) INACTIVATES IN TEXAS

TEXARKANA, Texas — The 755th Adjutant General Company (Postal) flag was slowly rolled around the wooden pole by Sgt. 1st Class Melanie Torres as Sgt. 1st Class Wanda Hadley held it steady while under the watchful eye of Col. Garth Anderson.

This was the scene Sunday (Dec. 16) as the postal company was inactivated at 10 a.m. here. This was the end to a United States Army Reserve company which had a history dating back to 1949 and had returned from active duty in January, 2004, serving in the War on Terrorism.

Hadley served as the acting commander of the 755th and Torres was the acting first sergeant as they encased the unit flag and handed it to Anderson who is the commander of the 353rd Engineer Group in Oklahoma City, Okla.

Anderson stood in for Brig. Gen. Philip Hanrahan, commander of the 90th Regional Readiness Command in North Little Rock, Ark. He acknowledged the past accomplishments of the postal company and reminded the small audience that Soldiers today still appreciate the fact that receiving the mail is one of the top quality of life issues. We all understand that "the important part is when the mail comes in…and it is especially important at this time of year," said Anderson.

Command Sgt. Major Guy N. Taylor of the 90th RRC headquarters also noted the significance of the furling of the unit flag but reminded the Soldiers that the unit may be needed in the future. He was referring to the history of the unit, which was activated twice in 1949 and again in 1990 and for a fourth time in 2003. He pointed out that "opportunities to serve will still be there, but transformation is a must in order to make our Army relevant."

The 755th AG Company received unit awards for the Defense of Saudi Arabia, Liberation and Defense of Kuwait, and the War on Terrorism.

AROUND THE ARMY RESERVE: TRANSFORMING THE FORCE

348TH PERSONNEL GROUP CASES ITS COLORS

NEW ORLEANS, La. — The 348th Personnel Group performed an inactivation ceremony Dec. 8, 2007 with furling and casing of the unit's flag at their facilities.

Brig. Gen. Philip L. Hanrahan, Commander of the 90th Regional Readiness Command (RRC), Col. Scott D. Sanders, 348th Commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. Wayman G. Bacon, officiated at the ceremony.

The 348th Personnel Group is an Army Reserve unit under the command of the 90th RRC in North Little Rock, Ark.

Sanders said to his troops, "Some of us were in Iraq under the unit. The 348th served its purpose well, under fire and in peacetime."

The 348th flag was furled and the colors were cased as "Taps" played in the background. Hanrahan explained, "The unit has been on active duty since Sept. 11, 2001, longer than they have been since World War II. We didn't destroy the colors, they are cased. The spirit lives on as each of you move forward."

Sanders is a civilian with the 90th RRC as Chief of Human Resources Division, Deputy Chief of Staff.

The 90th RRC will conduct inactivation ceremonies of its units over the next 18 months as a part of the Army's transformation and the Base Realignment and Closure Committee (BRAC) recommendations.

The unit inactivation comes as a result of the 2005 BRAC Committee's recommendation for DoD to disestablish the 90th RRC. This recommendation would support the U.S. Army Reserve's command and control restructuring initiative to reduce regional readiness commands from ten to four.

Capt. Kavanaugh Breazeale

The 348th Personnel Group, New Orleans, inactivates with the furling and casing of the unit's flag. Command Sgt. Maj. Wayman G. Bacon, Col. Scott D. Sanders, 348th Commander, and Brig. Gen. Philip L. Hanrahan, Commander of the 90th Regional Readiness Command (RRC) officiate at the ceremony. The 348th Personnel Group is an Army Reserve unit under the command of the 90th RRC in North Little Rock, Ark.

> "The unit has been on active duty since Sept. 11, 2001, longer than they have been since World War II. We didn't destroy the colors, they are cased. The spirit lives on as each of you move forward."
> — Brig. Gen. Philip L. Hanrahan; Commander of the 90th Regional Readiness Command (RRC)

Both the 63rd Regional Readiness Command in Los Alamitos, Calif., and the 90th Regional Readiness Command in Little Rock, Ark., would be disestablished and replaced by creating a new consolidated headquarters at MoffettField, Calif.

Its inactivation would also support the transformation of Army Reserve operational force structure by activating a sustainment brigade in Little Rock, Ark., in place of the 90th RRC, which, according to DoD, would increase the deployable capability of the Army Reserve to support the Active Army.

316TH ESC TRANSFORMS LOGISTICAL OPERATIONS FOR THE BETTER

By Maj. Christopher E. West
Public Affairs Office
316th Sustainment Command
(Expeditionary)

LSA ANACONDA, IRAQ — As the U.S. Amy Reserve prepares to celebrate its 100th anniversary of distinguished service to our nation in April, 2008 the Soldiers and Airmen of the 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) (ESC), an Army Reserve unit from Coraopolis, Pa., are busy making history too. The 316th is the first U.S. Army element of its kind to test the validity of modular force logistics in a wartime environment.

Prior to assuming its pioneering role as the senior logistics command in Iraq in August, 2007 the unit trained extensively for several months to ensure it was poised and battle ready to help combat units achieve and sustain the victory.

"We're versatile and mobile, can cater to several military branches — whether U.S., Coalition or Iraqi and can manage logistics at every level in theater, from the individual Soldier to the collective unit mission," said Brig. Gen. Gregory E. Couch, commanding general of the 316th ESC.

Modular force logistics is an evolutionary concept which emphasizes streamlining the process of how supply resources are procured, distributed, and replenished. This new concept helps military logistics elements forecast resources needed more effectively and efficiently.

It also helps diminish redundancies by reducing unnecessary layers. Operational command and control improves by providing leaders total visibility of the distribution system, its content, and the theater infrastructure.

"Our job is to ensure that proper planning has taken place, that each unit we support can fulfill its mission, that their movements go smoothly, and that they have the best equipment and supplies," said Couch.

The command's motto, "Sustain the Victory," translates into providing everything from bullets to beans, from fuel to maintenance parts to coordinating certain human resources. The command oversees 20,000 logistical Soldiers, providing support to U.S. forces, Coalition partners and Iraqi forces in theater.

"The Army Reserve is no longer simply a force in reserve. We are a vital part of our nation's defense. We are no longer a strategic force that stays in reserve until we are needed to supplement other forces. Today's Army Reserve is a skill-rich, operational force, complementing the joint force where and when needed," said Command Sgt. Maj. Stacey Davis, the senior enlisted leader of the 316th. "That is what we do here daily, around the clock. We provide the resources needed to maintain our combat effectiveness whether in Taji, Baghdad, Tikrit, Kuwait, or here."

The transformation-era modular unit with over 400 Soldiers and Airmen assigned from 42 states and three countries was not only formed to address its current wartime mission, but also to address the military's mission of sustained logistical support and rapid response in emergencies.

Through their collective efforts and by their sheer presence, they are helping the people of Iraq achieve the political, diplomatic, economic, and security milestones needed to reach independence and to assume a contributing role in the world community. Without question, the 316th ESC is a unit that is making history, doing things that no other Army unit has done before.

Maj. Christopher West

Command Sgt. Maj. Stacey Davis confers with Sgt. Maj. Richard Mason, 316th ESC G-4 sergeant major, on logistical matters germane to NCOs and junior enlisted Soldiers.

ARMY RESERVE COMMUNITIES

LAUNCH OF THE ARMY INTEGRATED FAMILY SUPPORT NETWORK

What is it? The Army Integrated Family Support Network (AIFSN) will provide a new support network for Soldiers and Families regardless of their proximity to a military installation. When fully implemented, this network will address Family issues head on by providing a single, holistic institutional network of standardized services.

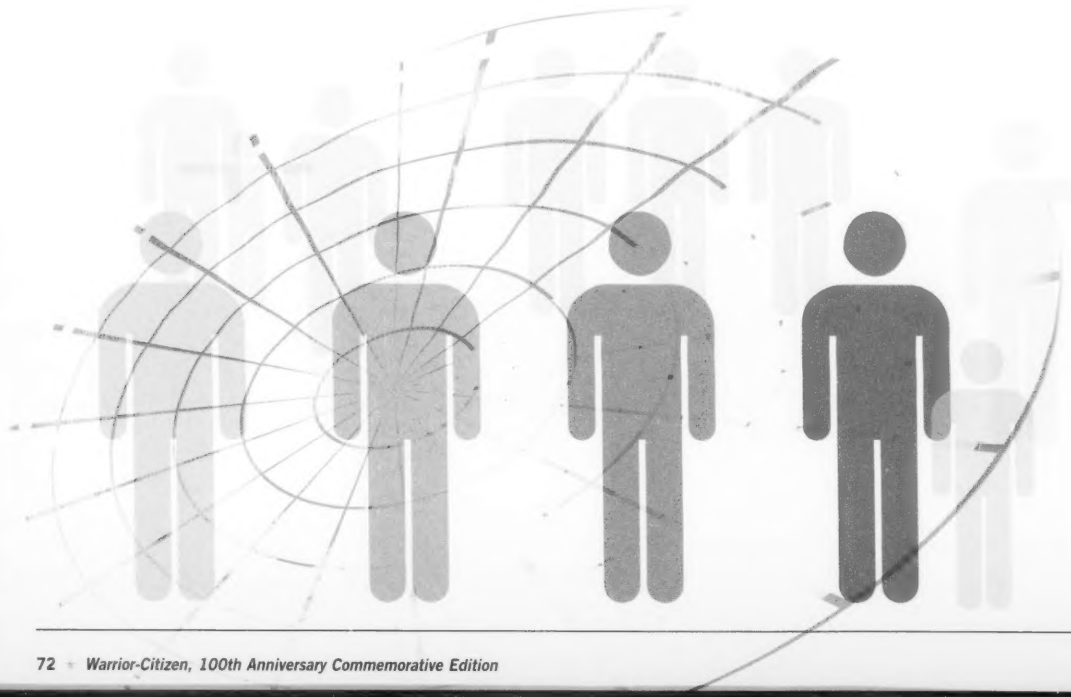
What has the Army done? Through a collective effort by the active Army, Guard, and Reserve, the Army has leveraged the power of the Internet to provide a single portal for information and services traditionally only found on military installations.

Until now, Active, Guard, and Reserve organizational structures created overlapping lines of authority with regard to programs for Army Families. Each component functioned independently in the delivery of Family programs. The AIFSN was specifically designed to meet the needs of "geographically dispersed" Soldiers and Families, in both active and reserve components, from mobilized Soldiers to recruiters to Families located outside reasonable driving distances of military facilities.

An initial $7 million has already been invested in the training and technology to "jump start" the program to create uniform Family programs across components. This funding provides cross-level staffing, training, and advanced technology to reach our geographically dispersed Families.

What efforts does the Army plan to continue in the future? The AIFSN will also target new Soldiers and Families, improving their awareness of and access to services.

Why is this important to the Army? The AIFSN supports Family readiness needs of the entire expeditionary force and will provide more consistent and uniform Family services during extended deployments to Active, Guard, and Reserve Families.



DEVELOPING YOUTH LEADERSHIP

By Sgt. 1st Class Chris Farley
Public Affairs Office
88th Regional Readiness Command

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. — They came from all over the 88th Regional Readiness Command's (RRC) region and some came from outside the 88th's region for their final destination the Water Park of America, in Bloomington, Minn.

Sure they came to swim, but they also came to learn to be leaders.

In August 2007 the 88th RRC Child Youth Services hosted its first Youth Leadership, Education and Development (YLEAD) program in Bloomington with an emphasis on learning "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens" workshop from Franklin Covey and having lots of fun.

Stephen Covey's The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People (SHHEP) is a bestselling book with more than 10 million copies in print. SHHEP was adapted into a motivational book for teenagers. The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teenagers is written to motivate and connect with teens by using language they can identify with. Also, SHHET has real-life scenarios with teenager's interests and experiences in mind so they can understand and learn.

Family Programs and Child Youth Services (CYS) started YLEAD in 2006. YLEAD teaches kids how to market the Army Reserve and use leadership skills in everyday life, college and when their parent or family member is deployed.

"It's a win for the kids and the Army Reserve," said C.R. Lee Ratliff Jr director of Army Reserve Family Programs.

YLEAD, hosted by the 88th RRC CYS, was open to highly motivated teenagers, ages 14–17 that had an Army Reserve family member. Thirty-eight teenagers volunteered and answered the call to attend YLEAD.

There is a big emphasis on teaching leadership skills at YLEAD but it's only one category within an even bigger core curriculum for these volunteer teens. CYS administrators broke the teens into small groups and had discussions on military life, community volunteering, team building and much more.

"YLEAD is important because it brings youth together from different communities and different states in their region, and they are able to see teenagers that have had similar experiences," said Ijeoma Osuji, 88th RRC child and youth services regional coordinator.

Bringing teens together to share experiences is important because it helps to find and build coping strategies for a deployment of a loved one. Unlike the active Army, whose communities are centrally located, Army Reserve families are spread all over the country. This is the problem Family Programs and Child Youth Services have been trying to remedy since the Global War on Terrorism started.

Before the YLEAD group split into their breakout groups, the teenagers worked on making fleece lap blankets that were later donated to patients at the Veterans Administration (VA) Medical Center in Minneapolis.

"The lap blankets will be distributed out to patients; they take them home and they love them," said Rhonda Boisvert, a representative from the VA Medical Center. "Many groups donate blankets to the VA Medical Center in Minneapolis for patients, but very few are teenage volunteer groups like YLEAD that does this," said Boisvert.

Sgt. 1st Class Chris Farley

Jane Burkitt, left, 15, from St. Paul, Minn., and Ashley Janke, 17, from Eagan, Minn., make a fleece blanket during the Youth Leadership Education and Development summit.

Jasmine Jones expected to sit through a boring event, but she said it has surprisingly been fun. "Its (YLEAD and learning the SHHET) important because even if it isn't changing the world, it helps you change people around you which eventually changes the world in a small way," said Jones.

If you are interested in attending YLEAD, call your local Family Programs and Child Youth Services representative.

ARMY RESERVE TRAINING COMMAND RECEIVES FAMILY READINESS AWARD

By Sgt. 1st Class Derrick Witherspoon
Office of the Chief, Army Reserve, Army Reserve Communications

ARLINGTON, Va. — There is an ancient African proverb that states it takes a village to raise a child, but by the same token it also takes a well established Family Readiness Program to help maintain an Army Reserve unit's mission readiness. The 108th Training Command (Initial Entry Training) was recently honored in February for doing just that.

The Honorable Thomas Hall, assistant secretary of defense (Reserve Affairs), along with the Military Officers Association of America President, Vice Adm. Norbert R. Ryan, Jr., U.S. Navy (Ret.), hosted the 2007 Department of Defense Reserve Family Readiness Awards ceremony, which was held at the Hall of Heroes in the Pentagon. The DoD Reserve Family Readiness Award recognizes the National Guard and Reserve units — one from each of the seven Reserve components - with the very best programs to support their families. The 108th Training Command (IET), located in Charlotte, N.C., was chosen as the winner from the Army Reserve. This is the commands third win.

Award criteria includes the readiness of Reserve service-member families as measured by the levels of individual family readiness and family care plans created; family members possessing current valid military dependent identification cards; up-to-date data within the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) and the unit's implementation of programs designed to educate and inform families about the many benefits available to help them. Each unit received a commemorative plaque and a check for $1,000 to help support their Family Readiness Program.

During his speech to the awardees and their guests, Secretary Hall said he realizes how important it is to recognize military families and he plans to continue to recognize them throughout his term.

> "There is a command emphasis on training our Soldiers to take care of their Family members before they deploy, which plays a big part in our Families' readiness." — Charlotte A. Douglas, Family Program Coordinator."

Maj. Gen. James B. Mallory, III, commanding general of the 108th Training Command (IET), said this award is a great reflection on the command's volunteers and family support staff.

"For the past two years, we have been in a process of deploying and redeploying units to and from Iraq," said Mallory. "Two- thirds of our deployed Soldiers came from my division, but the other third came from places such as California and Puerto Rico, so we had to establish a new operational paradigm to reach all of our families."

Mallory said the 108th Training Command (IET) Family Readiness Group helped their families, near and far, to obtain all of the services they needed while their Soldier was deployed, which allowed their Soldiers to focus their concentration primarily on their missions.

"There is a command emphasis on training our Soldiers to take care of their

family members before they deploy, which plays a big part in our families' readiness," said Charlotte A. Douglas, family program coordinator. "One of the things that we always keep in mind is that the Soldier is also part of the family and we need to focus on them the same way we focus on their family members."

Lt. Gen. Jack C. Stultz, chief, Army Reserve, said the 108th Training Command (IET) has set the standard in the Army Reserve for how units should establish a family support network across a wide geographical area.

"They (108th's family support staff) recently briefed my wife on their 'Fort Family' concept, where they have established a way of measuring family readiness as part of the readiness of their units," said Stultz. "They are leap years ahead, in terms of their Family Readiness Program, and other units should be using their Fort Family concept as a model for their programs."

Mallory said units should not be constrained geographically, but should find various ways, such as virtual programs, to reach their families that are miles away.

"We have a lot of processes and systems in the Army and across the Department of Defense that are there to assist and provide information and official help," said Mallory. "In the end, commanders must remember that the Army is about people and relationships, and having an established Family Readiness Program can help build bridges that can go a long way."

Sgt. 1st Class Deborah P. Williams

Members of the 108th Training Command (Initial Entry Training) receive their DoD Reserve Family Readiness Award from The Honorable Thomas Hall, assistant secretary of defense (Reserve Affairs), inside the Pentagon's Hall of Heros. From left to right: Lt. Gen. Jack C. Stultz, chief, Army Reserve; Maj. Gen. James B. Mallory, III, commanding general of the 108th Training Command (IET), and his wife, Mary; The Honorable Thomas Hall, assistant secretary of defense for Reserve Affairs; Charlotte A. Douglas; and Heather G. Hill.

THE STORE COMMANDER

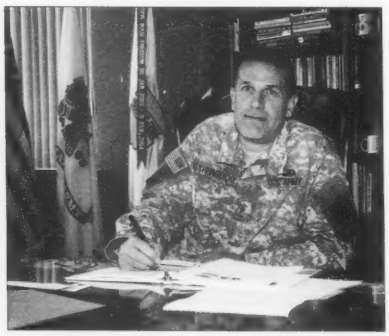
Editor's note: Brig. Gen. Keith L. Thurgood is the first Army Reserve Soldier to command the Army & Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) in its 112 year history.

WARRIOR-CITIZEN (W-C): You have made history by taking this assignment. How does this feel?

Brig. Gen. Keith L. Thurgood (Thurgood): Whether you're an Army Reserve officer or an active duty officer, it's an honor and a privilege for me to come here in the first place. To be selected as the first Army Reserve officer to command this position is an honor and it puts, for me personally, a little bit of personal pressure on me because I want to represent not only the Army Reserve in a very positive way but also the United States Army and make a difference in the lives of the Associates, Airmen and Soldiers.

W-C: As career senior executive with Frito-Lay and Pepsi for 20 years, how have your skills translated to your AAFES job?

Thurgood: First, everything we do is about leadership and leadership starts with me. Effective leaders do two things — they model the way and deliver results. Whether you are leading a team at PepsiCo or a large organization such as AAFES, it is a leader's first responsibility to define new realities while articulating a clear and compelling vision of where the organization is headed, developing strategies to achieve the vision and then rallying the right resources to execute the strategies. As leaders, we leverage different styles and techniques to reach out and touch a customer, Soldier, Airman, family member or the community. My experience has taught me that leaders at all levels make a difference.



Dan Rodriquez, AAFES

Brig. Gen. Keith L. Thurgood, commander AAFES.

The second thing that can be leveraged is a renewed focus on operational excellence. Specifically, developing business owners who understand the impact of enterprise-wide productivity and aligning performance and incentive systems to incent the right behavior. I see a move towards more "pay-for-performance" contracts and redesigning our individual performance measurement systems. Driving productivity has a geometric effect on the bottom line vs. increasing the revenue stream. We want and drive for both of course, but when one operates a small margin business there is a premium on productivity. For example, recent results where AAFES saw a double digit growth in earnings were driven in part by productivity. We can duplicate these results by leveraging the power of all 45,000 of our Associates to fill the innovation pipeline, replicating best practices, holding each other and our trading partners accountable for performance and collaborating with our partners.

W-C: What is your philosophy for running AAFES? Can you tell us more about that?

Thurgood: One of the tenets of my philosophy will be to build on the "genius of the and" as opposed to being captive to the "tyranny of the or." In other words, we want to provide world class benefits and a lean operation. I don't subscribe to an "either or" paradigm, which is why AAFES needs effective leaders and efficient managers to drive and deliver on the agenda. At the heart of my philosophy are people. That includes our internal associates, our external partners and our customers. People are not expense items on a balance sheet. Our human capital is an asset not an expense. In fact, it is our people who drive productivity across the enterprise and by leaning out the organization across all operational directorates, the natural benefit will be a better bottom line, which returns more dividends to Soldiers, Airmen and families. In other words, we get a great benefit and an efficient organization. To create a framework for our team members to think about the way ahead, when I assumed command, I summed this philosophy up by saying that our efforts going forward would be as simple as A, B, C.

A: Act Now… be proactive and seize the initiative… we own this business.

B: Build the Bench… grow efficient managers and effective leaders at all levels of the organization.

C: Customers… why we exist and whom we serve… at AAFES, "WE SERVE"

Cost… focus on our cost structure and productivity… there is an exponential return on productivity.

Cash… improving direct operating profit and wise use of cash… this will drive and increased dividend.

Collaboration… we improve together

Community… we are part of a global community and have responsibility to give back

By focusing on a few "big things," we can and will make a difference as we face a variety of challenges.

W-C: What do you like about your AAFES assignment the most?

Thurgood: Without question, the thing that I like the most is working with the Associates and seeing the transformation and change that we're creating in the organization. So as we drive the organization toward a culture of performance and a culture of ownership, one of the most exciting things to me is to see all of the things that we've been talking about now starting to take root in the organization. It's great to see our people, who are really at the core of the organization, make a difference. The other exciting thing about this job is getting to meet with our senior civilian and military leaders, as well as, CEO's of corporations all across the glob. Fun stuff!

W-C: You've been in command before, but this is the first time in retail operations. How will this new skill set benefit your next command in the AR?

Thurgood: The things that I'm learning here will help me in any assignment. Understanding the current realities, defining a strategic end state or vision, allocating resources, creating a sense of urgency for change, creating a sense of ownership, flawless execution, celebrating our wins, all these are ideas and skills that I can carry forward. When you're leading a large, diverse organization of 45,000 people, it's all about leadership. It's about setting the right example and walking the talk. It's making sure that from a strategic standpoint the organization is set up for success in the future. Every leader wants to leave the organization better than when they arrived. I want to do the same thing.

W-C: How will your experience as a customer and Soldier affect your goals for AAFES?

Thurgood: I had the great opportunity to shop at AAFES while growing up. Growing up in Europe, our family depended on AAFES to provide all the "home" necessities, including toys. When I think of AAFES and what it meant to me as a youngster, I think of toys. After I was commissioned, my first duty assignment was back to Europe. As a young lieutenant with two children, we relied heavily on the services and merchandise that AAFES provided… access to American products at the PX, shopping in the main store, movies and the catalog. Since new lieutenants don't have much money, Carol (my wife) was very conscious about shopping for the best "deals" …AAFES was and still is a great place to stretch your dollar… it is a place where a great value proposition and a customer meet to make a deal.

During my recent tour of duty in Kuwait and Iraq, I was astonished at the scope of AAFES operations. The size and number of stores as well as the assortment of merchandise was outstanding, and far exceeded my expectations. The challenge now is to continue to meet the expectations of our customers who are deploying for the second or third time. Because shoppers expect more our challenge is to deliver on AAFES' commitment to "Go Where You Go" by exceeding the expectations of the best customers in the world. We have the chance to do this in creative and innovative ways that will delight them with a great shopping experience. By leveraging the experience of associates, we can create customers for life. At the same time we are cognizant of that fact that our Soldiers and Airmen are in a combat zone. Iraq isn't Fort Hood. We work very closely with the combatant commanders to ensure our services are convenient and value-added, but don't detract from the focus on the mission.

W-C: In your opinion, how does both the civilian and military sectors benefit from the experience of AR Soldiers?

"By focusing on a few 'big things,' we can and will make a difference as we face a variety of challenges." — Brig. Gen. Keith L. Thurgood

Thurgood: One of the great things about the Army Reserve is we can bring our civilian skill sets to bear on military problems or, in my case, AAFES. So I'm able to take the things I learned at Pepsi and apply them here. And likewise, when I return to my civilian job, I will go back with experiences and new skill sets that I didn't have before that will make my civilian organization better. For example, other than these kinds of jobs, where can an employer send one of their Associates to lead and run a $10B business unit with profit and loss responsibility for free. Now it's not really free of course, because there is an organizational cost of supporting a mobilization. At the end of the day, I believe it's a very symbiotic relationship and the more we foster that kind of thinking the more value we bring to both sides of the table. I believe we will be better off as an Army Reserve organization, an Army and as civilian organizations. What a great way to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the USAR, telling a story where everybody wins.

One of the things we need to do a better job of is making sure that we, as civilian organizations, support the employee via such organizations as the Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve program. Likewise the Army and government can do a much better job at reaching out to the employers who make deployments of Army Reserve Soldiers possible. As many of our leaders have noted, we can expect an era of persistent conflict, thus it is very important that we engage our communities and employer early and often by collaborating with them in different ways. And, as I mentioned, it makes good business sense because we come back to our civilian jobs with a different skill set than when we left. As we leverage those skills sets in new ways, both organizations grow.

W-C: What kind of changes can Soldiers expect to see at AAFES?

Thurgood: We are changing the face of AAFES in order to enhance the quality of products and service we provide the troops. AAFES completed $344 million in capital improvements at 57 installations worldwide to provide our customers with 496 new or renovated retail, dining, and services destinations. We are becoming more energy conscious in our new construction. Cooperative efforts with sister exchanges allows our customer to broaden their use of gift cards at any military exchange in the world. We are improving our online shopping experience with the All- Service Exchange Catalog and Exchange Online Store. We are continuously expanding our vendor partners to give our customers a greater selection of products and services. Not only are we expanding our vendor partners, we are expanding our "private label" products manufactured under the Exchange Services' "Exchange Select" brand. These products will save our customers anywhere from 20 percent to 50 percent when com-

pared to name brand counterparts. We are working with the Defense Commissary Agency to develop joint-use facilities. Soldiers and Airmen will see 'lifestyle centers' in their future. AAFES is providing our customers the option to use our co-branded Military Star Card designed to enhance the overall shopping experience with the additional incentives provided. This will reduce our bank-issued credit card expenses and generate more funds for MWR. We are also looking into providing one-stop shopping for our customers' communications needs. We are aggressively marketing our services and capabilities to the USAR and NG. We have over 1 million Reservists but only 90,000 understand, and are using the benefit. Finally, we are working closely with the Army and Air Force staff to ensure we are supporting the great family initiatives and delivering on our commitments.

W-C: What do you feel already works well in the AAFES organization for Soldiers?

Thurgood: AAFES is very diverse, global retailer. We carry an assortment of merchandise that's combination department store and discounter prices. AAFES has specialty stores that include Shoppettes (convenience stores), gas stations, car care centers, book stores, video rentals, class six shops (alcoholic beverage stores), modern food courts, theaters, vending machines and a wide range of personal services that we offer to our customers. We strive daily to meet the needs of our 11.6 million diverse customer base, 25 percent which are our Air National Guard and Reserve Soldiers.

Servicing that customer base are our Associates. I can't say enough about the dedication and commitment of our Associates here advocating doing what's right for our Soldiers, Airmen and their families. Leading a workforce that enthusiastically and selflessly supports troops and their families, no matter where they go, is a unique and special mission that very few commanders will ever have a chance to experience. We live our motto "We Go Where You Go!"

Additionally, last year we reach a milestone deploying our 2,000th Associate downrange. Our Associates work long hours, 7 days a week to bring service members a bit of home in that difficult environment. They volunteered to leave the comforts of home and deploy to dangerous locations throughout the region and are the backbone of AAFES' contingency operations throughout the Middle East.

Capt. Samuel J.Jungman, AAFES

BG Thurgood meets an AAFES Associate at the Grafenwoehr Exchange in Germany.

Finally, we work really hard to be our customer's first choice by providing them the convenience of goods and services at competitively low prices and generate profits to support Morale Welfare and Recreation programs. Last year $263.6 million of AAFES' earnings were returned to the services.

W-C: How long will you be in command of AAFES?

Thurgood: I've been at AAFES for about 8 months. I assumed command August 15, 2007.

W-C: What principles from PepsiCo do you bring to AAFES?

Thurgood: One of the great things about PepsiCo is that it is an organization whose performance is fundamentally based on leadership. The great legacy of organizations like PepsiCo is that it grows leaders and then plants them across the organization with the expectation of delivering results. PepsiCo is a very performance-driven organization that understands the impact that leaders have on driving results and changing performance. I've been able to take those things that I have learned there, in either small teams or large teams, and bring them into this position. The combination of driving for results, setting the right kind of agenda, balancing strategic views with tactical execution are all concepts that I've tried to bring to this team. And the good news is the results or our joint efforts are showing. Earnings are up over 20% vs. last year; inventory levels are down by over $200M; and our focus on customers is improving the in-store experience. All this is great news for our families who reap the benefits in a higher dividend. You cannot buy the experiences I have had at PepsiCo nor can PepsiCo buy the experience that I will bring back to them. In the end, I think you can say that what I learned at PepsiCo that I think is very applicable here.

W-C: In closing, is there anything else you would like to mention?

Thurgood: Don't be afraid of change. Embrace it and be warmed by its enthusiastic fire. In various command positions I've developed a few "rules of the road" that have guided the teams I've had the pleasure to be a part of. It's not necessarily a statement of philosophy, but rather a few simple rules to guide our actions. I know I've tossed out a few mnemonic devices to tell the story, but in addition to my A, B, Cs, I have "Thurgood's 4 Rules of the Road:"

Rules of the Road

- Don't Bunt… be bold and swing hard… live a legacy… belong to the fellowship of the doers.
- No 2nd Place Trophies… strive for excellence… you are either a pioneer or a settler.
- Look for Yellow Cars… pay attention… look for things you don't ordinarily look for and learn from your observations.
- Solve for Yes… be part of the solution not part of the problem.

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COMMISSARY BENEFIT FOLLOWS 100 YEARS OF ARMY RESERVE

By Dr. Peter D. Skirbunt
DeCA historian

FORT LEE, Va. — Throughout the U.S. Army Reserve's first 100 years, commissaries have been there serving those who sacrifice so much to serve the nation.

"Since 1908, Army reservists have proudly served whenever and wherever this nation needed them," said Rick Page, acting director of the Defense Commissary Agency. "Throughout that time, during periods of peace or conflict, we always knew we could depend on reservists to answer the call, and military commissaries were there to deliver them a benefit they had earned.

"As they turn the page toward the next 100 years, the Army Reserve deserves nothing less than DeCA's commitment to serve them and their families with a premier commissary benefit."

Over the past 100 years, both the Army Reserve and military commissaries underwent various transformations. During the 19th century, several temporary reserve organizations had operated – for example, a temporary veteran reserve corps operated from 1863 to 1865 – before policymakers became convinced of the need for a permanent "ready reserve" of trained Soldiers, able to serve on quick notice. On April 23, 1908, Congress established the first permanent element of the modern Reserve, the Medical Reserve Corps. By 1916, Congress established the Officers Reserve Corps and the Enlisted Reserve Corps, both of which served along the Mexican border against Pancho Villa that same year.

For commissaries, the beginning of the modern era began July 1, 1867, when Congress authorized commissary access for both officers and enlisted men as an important nonpay benefit for their service. Sales commissaries under the auspices of the Army Quartermaster Corps delivered this benefit with Soldiers in uniform often working inside the stores.

By 1952, the Reserve Corps officially became known as the Army Reserve and was well on its way to carving out a proud legacy of service. That same year, the Department of Defense ordered an across-the-board, 2 percent surcharge to help cover the commissaries' expenses; this was gradually increased until it reached its current level, 5 percent, in 1983. Funds generated by the surcharge pay for construction, renovation and maintenance of commissary structures, as well as for some supplies and equipment.

Control of Army commissaries became the official responsibility of the Army's newly activated Troop Support Agency in 1972. Meanwhile, the creation of the all-volunteer force in 1973 made the Reserve increasingly important in America's military planning, policy and combat deployments. In recognition of that vital role, reservists' commissary privileges have steadily increased. Although reservists always had commissary shopping privileges, they were originally limited to the time spent in training or on active-duty status. However, in 1986 they received an additional 12 shopping visits annually. That number increased to 24 in 1998, and in 2001, reservists serving more than 30 days on active duty in any given year earned unlimited shopping privileges for that year.

In November 2003, in recognition of the Reserve's importance in the global war on terrorism – including service in Afghanistan and Iraq – and its continuing contribution to the nation's military readiness, all reservists received unlimited commissary shopping privileges, regardless of time spent in training or on active duty.

Today, Army reservists and their families can shop at any of 258 commissaries that DeCA operates throughout the United States and around the world. The stores carry a wide selection of American grocery products – stock lists, limited to 82 items in 1867, today offer more than 14,000 items – and provide an annual savings of 30 percent or more when compared with private-sector supermarkets.

National Archive Photo

Soldiers a few miles from the front in France during World War I pick up items at a make-shift commissary to supplement their rations.

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SAVINGS of 30% or more!
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1908-2008

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USACAPOC (A)'S OPERATION TOY DROP DELIVERS PARATROOPERS, TOY DONATIONS

U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt Richard Rose

Pvt. Raina Pangelinan with the 82nd Airborne Division fills out her registration form during Operation Toy Drop 2007 at Fort Bragg/Pope Air Force Base, N.C.

FORT BRAGG, N.C. — Fort Bragg's airborne community demonstrated its generosity and holiday spirit by supporting the tenth annual Randy Oler Memorial Operation Toy Drop in December 2007 by collecting over 2800 toys for deserving children in the Fort Bragg, N.C. area.

Hosted by the Army Reserve's Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command (Airborne), with assistance from the XVIII Airborne Corps, the 43rd Airlift Wing and the 440th Air Lift Wing at nearby Pope Air Force Base, the Randy Oler Memorial Operation Toy Drop is designed to provide joint and allied airborne operations training, foster military camaraderie and spread good will to military and civilian families at the holiday season.

Donated toys were collected by both Army and Air Force volunteers who then bag, label, and catalog the toys by age group for accountability purposes. The toys are later provided to families in need of a little extra help during the holiday season. In the past ten years over 25,000 toys have been donated and given to families.

"Operation Toy Drop gives paratroopers within the airborne community an opportunity to do what they love to do…jump out of a perfectly good airplane while earning a foreign military award to wear on their dress uniform," said Capt. Amanda Dodd, USACAPOC (A)'s Operation Toy Drop special projects officer. "But the bigger picture is how the paratroopers here show their generosity during the holiday season by volunteering to pay forward toys and goodwill not only for military children but also for local-area children."

The lottery, which has become a highlight of Operation Toy Drop, offers Fort Bragg and Pope AFB paratroopers, not previously manifested by their units, one final chance to win a seat on the next day's non-tactical jump. The lottery kicked off Dec. 7, 2007, at Strom Thurmond Complex Pax Shed #3 also known as Green Ramp on Pope AFB while the following day's jump took place at Sicily Drop Zone on Fort Bragg.

"More than 1200 Fort Bragg paratroopers will have the opportunity to jump with either of the allied jumpmasters team and earn that country's airborne wings," said Dodd.

This tenth iteration of the Randy Oler Memorial Operation Toy Drop will mark the German's seventh appearance at the event, while the Canadians second appearance and Chilean paratroopers will be making their debut. Past allied nation participation has included Australia, Ireland, England, Canada, Romania, Mexico, Poland and Venezuela.

In 2004, the event was officially renamed the Randy Oler Memorial Operation Toy Drop in memory of the project's founder, Sgt. 1st Class Randy Oler, former USACAPOC (A), HHC, first sergeant, who died in April of the same year while performing jumpmaster duties. Oler started Toy Drop in 1998 and led the event every year with plans committed to his memory. His dream is executed today by a large and diverse team from over ten Army, Air Force and international military units. And so his dream lives on.

U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt Richard Rose

U.S. Army kevlar helmets were everywhere at Operation Toy Drop 2007 at Fort Bragg/ Pope Air Force Base, N.C. Over 1400 toys were collected for deserving families in the Fayettville area.

ESGR: THIS EMPLOYER HAS "DONE IT RIGHT!"

Editor's note: Employers are vital in supporting today's men and women serving in uniform. The Employer Support to the Guard and Reserve program is a valuable asset as our Army Reserve Soldiers continue serving at home and overseas in support of the Global War on Terrorism. Master Sgt. John Sookikian, U.S. Army Reserve, shares the support he received from his employer, Consolidated Electrical Distributors,(CED) Inc., while being deployed multiple times spanning four years of his seven years of employment.

In 2003 my Reserve unit (1/321 INF) was called to Active Duty to support the training efforts at Fort Jackson, S.C. As the 1st Sgt. I was called and told to report within two hours of the notification. I walked in my boss' office (Barclay Ryan) and told him I had to leave within 20 minutes to report. He had no issues and made sure that everything was in order for my extended stay. After nine months away I was welcomed back and taken in with open arms. If this were the last thing that was done for me then I would be satisfied with the (recognition) package that we give employers. But it wasn't!

Because of my desire to serve in combat I put in for a tour in Iraq or Afghanistan. Four months after I returned to work I received orders to go to Iraq. Barclay didn't even blink an eye but, again, made sure that everything was taken care of for my extended stay. While overseas the management and employees stayed in contact with me and my family. They even took time to send care packages for my troops. When I contacted them to let them know that I was being extended, they wished me luck and again made sure everything was taken care of for me.

"John has high integrity," said Ryan. "We're a family owned company and we believe in family values that mirror his ethics and integrity. How could you not support a guy like that?"

Ryan added that even though having a valued employee deployed *"...does put a strain on business the rest of the family bands together to make up for that loss. It's very much like a 'Band of Brothers'."*

"We all look out for each other, very much like the military," he continued. "John has created a spot and a future for himself with this company. When you find good people you look out for them."

While I was overseas my wife and children relocated to Charleston, S.C. Upon my return from Iraq, CED placed me in a position in our Charleston branch so that I could be closer to my kids. This was extraordinary when you consider that both branches only employ 10 - 15 people and the fact that my Division manager supported this even though he had requested that I relocate to Florida for a management position.

After six months in Charleston the 108th Division got orders to go to Iraq. They were going to be performing the same mission that I had been doing for two years and asked if I would go. I was afraid that this would strain my relationship with my employer but nothing was farther from the truth. My new manager, Mike Goss, wished me well and made sure that everything was in order. The Division Manager, Gary Pike, came up from Florida and along with my old manager (Barclay Ryan) they took me to a Carolina football game. They secured box seats for the event because they knew how much I enjoyed Carolina Football.

While overseas my boss, Mike Goss, sent ten pounds of Starbuck's coffee along with other assorted goodies every two to four weeks, upon request, to me and my team. He did this on his own until the Division manager, Gary Pike, found out and had him expense it so the company would pay for it. They did this throughout the 16 months that I was away. When I started a "toy and clothing" program for the children of Iraq I received packages from several CED branches. I also received best wishes from the Regional VP, Butch Mistretta, and the company President, Dean Burch.

"I've always felt strongly about supporting the military," said Goss, profit center manager at the CED, Charleston, S.C. location. "When folks like Mike half to go ... I mean these men and women are putting it all on the line for all of us. We just want them to know that we'll make sure that their job is safe and waiting for them while they're gone."

"Everybody that worked here supported him and if all it took was sending a little Starbucks coffee to make him feel at home, we were glad to do it," he said.

When I returned I was given as much time off before returning to work and have been given any time I need for personal or medical issues. I have been given a position above the one I left and treated by everyone here as if I was never gone. For more information on the ESGR program, visit their website at **http://www.esgr.org**.

Master Sgt. John Sookikian

Master Sgt. John Sookikian, left, poses with an Iraqi Soldier and fellow American Soldier in the Dourya District of Baghdad in 2006. Master Sgt. Sookikian was deployed for four out of seven years while employed with Consolidated Electrical Distributors, Inc.

VERMONT RECOGNIZES 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMY RESERVE

Tom Carney

Vermont Army Reserve Ambassador John des Groseilliers, watches as Vermont Governor James Douglas signs the Army Reserve 100th Anniversary Proclamation at the Vermont State Capitol in Montpelier, Jan. 28, 2008.

By Linda A. Jeleniewski
Public Affairs Office
94th Regional Readiness Command

MONTPELIER, Vt. — Vermont Governor James H. Douglas signed a proclamation celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the U.S. Army Reserve with Army Reserve Ambassador John des Groseilliers, Jan. 28, 2008 in the governor's Ceremonial Office here.

"The proclamation signing went well today," said des Groseilliers. "Our Governor, James Douglas was extremely eloquent as he spoke of the Army Reserve."

According to des Groseilliers, also attending were the Chair, Assistant Chair and Executive Director of Vermont's Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), Jon Copans, a representative from the office of Congressman Peter Welch (D), Vt., Michael McHugh, retired Sgt. Maj. a representative from the Office of Vermont Veterans Affairs, the local State Representative, Lucy Leriche who read the Proclamation, as well as several friends.

In commemoration of one hundred years of service to the Nation, members of the Senate have drafted legislation that is working its way through the halls of Congress to create a Joint Resolution congratulating the Army Reserve and wishing them another century of continued support.

STATES THAT HAVE ALSO CELEBRATED THE ARMY RESERVE'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

AS OF 28 MAR 08

California
- Chula Vista
- National City

Illinois

Kansas

Minnesota

Missisippi

Nebraska

Puerto Rico

Tennessee

Vermont

Virginia

Washington

AMBASSADOR VENDITTO: ARMY RESERVE ADVOCATE

For Carl Venditto, being an Army Reserve ambassador is a continuation of a lifetime of service.

His list of titles and accomplishments is long: Educator; Connecticut State Chairman for the Employer Support to the Guard and Reserve Committee; 2007 Connecticut Veteran of the Year; member of the American Legion, Reserve Officers Association, American Red Cross and the Marine Corps League.

Venditto is especially proud to be a Marine serving and representing Army Reserve Soldiers. He served on active duty with the Marines from 1952–1956, with another 18-month stint in 1985 and 1986.

But serving as an Army Reserve ambassador is just one of the hats he wears. Most recently, Venditto has led a project to name Connecticut highways for servicemen killed in combat. It was a project borne of frustration in seeing highways named for state politicians.

"I got personally angry," Venditto said, believing that such honors should go to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

But anger is not a primary motivation for Venditto. His greatest satisfaction, he says, is in "making things happen."

In 2007, Gov. M. Jodi Rell inducted Venditto into the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame for his service as an ESGR ombudsman and veterans advocate.

Venditto is currently serving his third term as an Army Reserve ambassador. He enjoys attending Welcome Home Warrior-Citizen ceremonies and meeting Soldiers and their families.

In addition to his work with the Army Reserve, Venditto helps out at Veterans Affairs job fairs to help veterans find employment.

"I see myself as a referral service," he said. "I like dealing face-to-face with veterans who have issues."

Venditto worked as an educator in the Bristol and Middletown school systems in Connecticut, serving as a teacher, principal and assistant superintendent.

But for a man who rose to the rank of colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps, he gets a kick out of being an ambassador for the Army Reserve.

"My family all served in the Army," he said with a grin. "But I was a Marine!"

Carl M. Venditto

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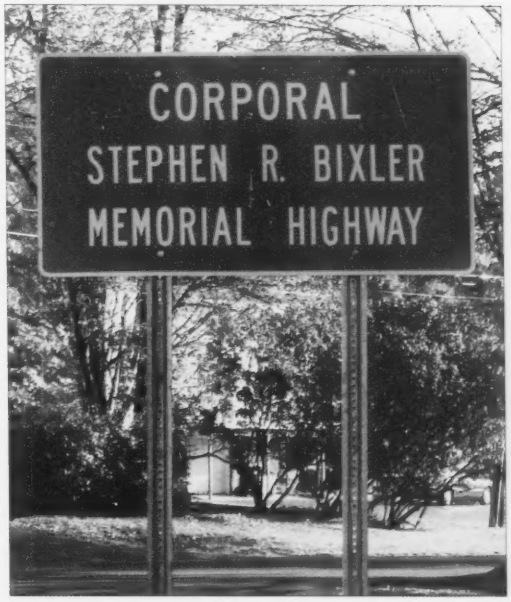

DO YOU KNOW YOUR AMBASSADOR?

Carl M. Venditto

Southington, Conn.
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Business Position
Employer Support to Guard and Reserve Committee (ESGR) State Chairman

Military Experience
COL, USMCR (Ret), July 1986

Civilian Education
MST 30; Teacher, Principal; School Administrator

Community Service
ESGR; American Legion; Museum of American; AVT

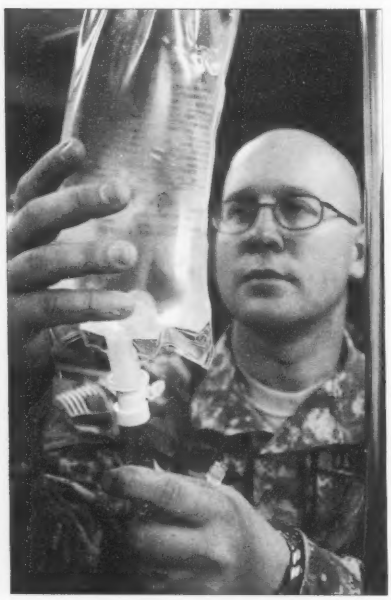
Organizations, Clubs, Philanthropies
ROA; Red Cross; Marine Corps League

325TH COMBAT SUPPORT HOSPITAL SEES DROP IN CAUSALITIES IN IRAQ

By Janet Boivin
Nursing Spectrum

A boy's cry for his mother comes from the intermediate care ward of the 325th Combat Support Hospital (CSH) one morning in late September 2007 at Camp Speicher in Iraq. The Iraqi child, whom U.S. medical staff estimate is around 11 or 12 years old, has a broken left arm and gunshot wounds to both feet. His head rests on a colorful pillowcase that might be found in any pediatric ward in the U.S.

After almost five years of war in Iraq, the presence of children in U.S. military hospitals is commonplace. But according to the U.S. military, this child was not an innocent bystander in the wrong place at the wrong time.



Mike Milinac

1st. Lt. Robert Hafner, RN, a burn specialist at the University of Kansas, helped care for a badly burned Iraqi boy at Al Asad Air Base.

Instead, he is being held at the hospital as an insurgent along with three men who also are wounded. They were taken into custody together after firing upon U.S. Soldiers outside of this Army base located in Saddam Hussein's home town of Tikrit.

The boy and the men are tucked into the end of the long, narrow intermediate-care ward where they are guarded by four armed Soldiers who say they do not sympathize with the youngest of the detainees, even if he has just barely entered adolescence.

The detainees are separated from the rest of the patients in the ward by folding privacy screens. But on the other side of the screens, there are surprisingly few U.S. service members. And the few Soldiers who are resting on the wafer-thin military mattresses have non-combat-related complaints.

Indeed, since the 325th CSH, an Army Reserve unit from Independence, Mo., arrived in Iraq at the beginning of September 2007, the number of U.S. combat dead and wounded per month has dropped significantly and continues to fall.

"I am pleasantly surprised we have not seen the level of casualties I expected," says Lt. Col. Christopher O'Connell, RN, chief nurse of the 325th CSH at Camp Speicher. "I'm OK with that."

O'Connell, who is a flight nurse with Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in New Hampshire, says about one-third of the hospital's census consists of U.S. service members and two-thirds comprises a mix of Iraqi army and police, detainees, Iraqi civilians, or civilians from other countries.

The 325th CSH's sister hospital at Al Asad Air Base in Iraq's western Anbar Province is experiencing a drop in casualties as well. One year ago Anbar Province was one of the most violent areas in Iraq.

"I thought we would have more trauma," says Lt. Col. Peggy Hennessy, RN, chief nurse of the 325th CSH at Al Asad. "If this trend continues, we'll be fortunate."

The trend is a welcome relief from the first part of the year when the number of dead and wounded Soldiers rose because of the infusion of Soldiers into Iraq as part of the military's counterterrorism "surge" to quell violence around the country. The casualties from the surge made 2007 the deadliest year for U.S. service members since the war started.

May was the grimmest month in 2007 with 126 deaths. Since then the number steadily declined to a low of 38 deaths in October, according to icasualties.org.

The number of wounded per month has decreased as well with a peak in June 2007 of 750 wounded to a low in October 2007 of 296.

The military attributes the drop in casualties to the success of the surge and to a movement among Sunni tribal leaders to cooperate with the U.S. military instead of al-Qaida terrorists.

Lt. Col. Judy Fryover, RN, NP, charge nurse of Camp Speicher's intermediate-care ward, says although she has more Iraqi patients than U.S. Soldiers, even that number has decreased. In her civilian life,

Fryover is a clinical nurse with Sparrow Hospital located in Lansing, Mich.

The website icasualties.org shows there are fewer Iraqi army, police, and civilians being killed or wounded but the overall numbers are still higher than those for the Americans. Iraqi civilians still are frequent patients at U.S. military hospitals. This is reflected in Al Asad's 12-bed ICU, in which most of the patients are usually Iraqi army or police, says Hennessy, who works at SSM Health Care in St. Louis.

Recently an 8-year-old Iraqi boy was admitted to the ICU with burns to more than 60% of his body, says Hennessy.

First Lt. Robert Hafner, RN, a staff nurse in the ICU in the 325th CSH and, back home, a nurse in the burn unit at the University of Kansas Medical Center, helped care for the boy and taught the other nurses and medics about advanced burn care. Unfortunately, the boy died.

"Emotionally, it was hard for everyone to care for this patient because many members of the staff have children that age and, in my case, I know what I can do for him in the U.S., and what we can do here doesn't come close," says Hafner. "They were working really hard to find a place for him to evac to in the states."

Despite the drop in U.S. casualties, a few Soldiers have died at the 325th CSH at Camp Speicher. "A Soldier's death is without a doubt the hardest thing anyone here has to deal with," O'Connell wrote in a follow-up letter to Nursing Spectrum. "I knew these days would come, and I have been sharing with my staff, long before we arrived in Iraq, the need to be prepared for it."

Fortunately, no Soldiers have died at Al Asad.

The combat-related trauma being seen in U.S. troops at both hospitals includes wounds from improvised explosive devices, sniper fire, and small arms fire, report O'Connell and Hennessy.

Non-combat-related trauma involving service members at both of the 325th hospitals includes military training accidents and motor vehicle rollovers.

At Al Asad, the most common non-combat complaints for which Marines or Soldiers are admitted to the hospital are abdominal pain, renal stones, and mental health issues, says Hennessy.

Mike Milinac

Capt.Yancy Caruthers,a flight nurse at Al Asad Air Base, sits by a waiting evacuation helicopter.

The stress of going "outside the wire," the military term for leaving secure U.S. bases to travel through Iraqi villages, "takes a toll on front-line Soldiers," she says.

The lower casualty rates help improve staff morale and free up time for continued training and education, say military nurse leaders.

"It has given us a chance to refine our operations, train our less-experienced Soldiers, and make the hospital ours," says O'Connell. "Our battle rhythm has established our daily ebb and flow."

The slower pace allowed nine Soldiers to take a 40-hour class and receive certificates in field sanitation, Fryover says.

"We also are able to give more Soldiers time off to participate in gym activities, such as basketball tournaments, 5K runs with prizes, and a flag football tournament, thereby increasing morale," she says.

The staffs of the 325th CSH in Camp Speicher and Al Asad are hopeful the numbers of dead and wounded will continue to decline — or at least not rise. But if they start to climb, "we're here and we're ready if needed," says Hennessy.

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WELCOME HOME CEREMONIES HONOR ENGINEER SOLDIERS

By Maj. Hillary Luton
Army Reserve Public Affairs

OGDEN, Utah — When the news broadcasts the latest suicide bombing, terrorist attack or insurgent activities, often flashes of disruption and insecurity rush through our minds. Rarely do we stop to think about the men and women who work tirelessly to improve the security situation in Iraq.

The Soldiers of the 321st Engineer Battalion were honored in three events Feb. 16, 2008, in Boise, Idaho, Feb. 23 in Hayden Lake, Idaho and finally Feb 24 in Ogden, Utah during Welcome Home Warrior-Citizen ceremonies. The unit was awarded 102 Purple Hearts, 104 Bronze Stars, over 295 Combat Action Badges and 16 medals with valor.

During their deployment the unit successfully cleared over 1,000 improvised explosive devices (IEDs). In addition to improving route security, they built four bridges and supported various construction projects.

Col. Michael Hoxie, the task force commander, credits the unit and its mission with the drop in the level of violence in the region. "My Soldiers played a huge role in this process," said Hoxie.

David Cheney

SPC Raymond Werner, Cpl. Kelly Grothe, Sgt. Coby Schwab, Cpl. Stephen Shannon, Spec. Ross Cleavenger and Sgt. James Holtom, six Soldiers in Task Force Pathfinder, who were killed during Operation Iraqi Freedom, are honored during a fallen Soldier ceremony.

No unit understands the dedication of Soldiers until they are faced with the loss of one of their own. The 321st faced the loss of six Soldiers throughout their deployment, three of which were lost in one incident. "Keeping the unit focused after the death of a Soldier and speaking with the family of a fallen Soldier [is the most difficult part]," said Hoxie.

Hoxie did keep them focused and he commends his subordinate leaders and Soldiers for helping him do it. "While they grieved," said Hoxie, "they stayed on point and on mission, demonstrating their character and dedication to the overall mission."

The 321st Engr. Bn. returned from Iraq in Sept. 2007 after a year long deployment to the Al Anbar Province. The unit was the leading element of Task Force Pathfinder, which included the battalion headquarters and three companies, Co. C, 397th Engr. Bn., Eau Claire, Wisc., the 718th Engr. Co. and the 362nd Multi-Role Bridge Company, both of Fort Benning, Ga.

The final ceremony in Ogden was hosted by LTG Jack Stultz, chief, Army Reserve, who praised the unit for their unwavering dedication during their deployment. The ceremony honored Soldiers who received Bronze Stars, Army Commendation Medals and Purple Hearts.

Photo Courtesy: 321st Engr. Bn.

The 321st Engr. Bn. patrols in Al Anbar Province, Iraq looking or IEDs.

ARMY RESERVE WARRIOR AND FAMILY ASSISTANCE CENTER PASSIONATE ABOUT SERVING OTHERS

By Spec. Mekonya Cheefus
Army Reserve Public Affairs

FORT MCPHERSON, Ga. — In support of ongoing missions in Iraq and Afghanistan, deployments for Soldiers have become longer in duration and more frequent while constantly wearing on the families that provide endless support from the rear. Re-deployment proves to be an equally difficult time when faced with problems ranging anywhere from readjustment to civilian life to medical rehabilitation.

It is during these critical times when a Soldier can slip through the cracks while attempting to navigate through the endless layers of red tape that stand between him and the assistance he needs. The Army Reserve Warrior and Family Assistance Center (ARWFAC) can help and will do whatever it takes to get the job done.

On Nov. 20, 2007, the ARWFAC held a ribbon cutting ceremony to symbolize the official opening of its facility to the public. Soldiers, family members, and DOD civilians alike were in attendance at this ground breaking event. Brig. Gen. Anne Macdonald, chief of staff, U.S. Army Reserve Command, and Col. Scotty Grigsby, director of the ARWFAC both hosted the ceremony.

"The United States Army has prioritized families this year. It's about taking care of them and we do that by first taking care of Soldiers," said Macdonald.

The Army Reserve Warrior and Family Assistance Center provides Army Reserve Soldiers, families, retirees and units a single source for the resolution of situations related to medical issues and education on programs available to Army Reserve Soldiers.

"The Warrior Family and Assistance Center has stood up to serve a need for Army Reserve Soldiers, families, and retirees and that means to ensure that no Soldier falls through the cracks and if they have fallen through the cracks, we get them out," said Grigsby.

Army Reserve Soldiers are not the only ones who can take advantage of the services provided at the ARWFAC. Inactive Ready Reserve members, retirees, family members, national guard, active component, Coast Guard, public health service members are all welcome to use the center for assistance.

"We may not be the right one who has the answer, but we will have a warm hand over to someone who does know and who cares enough about them to follow up later with a phone call. We can utilize the military one source if needed. We will not turn anybody away," said Grigsby.

There are approximately 1300 wounded Soldiers in transition traversing through the medical support system either in medical treatment facilities, warrior transition units or community-based health care organizations. The objective is to assign an Army Reserve sponsor to each one of those Soldiers, according to Grigsby.

Sponsors and coordinators are mobilized reserved officers and NCOs who have been hand picked by Grigsby and his staff.

"There is a keen connection between the sponsors and the people who call in because they've been there and have been through it," said Lt. Col. Delois Watson-Brown, WFAC chief of training and knowledge management. "We've selected individuals with a unique heart and mindset for serving others."

Procedures for sponsors and coordinators require them to make the initial contact to a Soldier who has returned home from deployment. When calls come in through the hotline, questions are answered or if necessary, a sponsor is assigned for more follow-up. Sequentially, every month, the assigned sponsor calls back to provide more assistance until services are no longer needed.

"We provide our help until they no longer need our services, until we hear, 'thank you so much, you can help somebody else now.' You may have heard some veterans say that they were forgotten about. Our calls let them know that we remember you, we appreciate you, we understand and we're here," said Watson-Brown.

The ARWFAC staff will also be training civilian volunteers and Soldiers down to the unit level in order to suggest local resources and programs to those in need. These individuals will be equipped with resource information. They will have sponsors or coordinators assigned to them whom they can call whenever a unique set of circumstances arise. The goal is to make sure that the Soldier that is calling in, or the family member of retiree, has someone local (to them) that can know about the services in that area and help them quicker than they're calling out of state.

"It's a myriad of out pouring of generosity out there." Their website is **www.arfp.org/WFAC.**

Sgt. Maj. Troy Falardeau

Brig. Gen. Anne Macdonald, chief of staff, U.S. Army Reserve Command, and Col. Scotty Grigsby, director of the Army Reserve Warrior and Family Assistance Center, cut the ribbon of the new center at Fort McPherson, Ga.

IN MEMORIAM

AS OF MARCH 31, 2008

SGT Kevin D. Akins
MAJ Stuart M. Anderson
SGT Roberto Arizola, Jr.
SPC Farid El Azzouzi
CSM Edward C. Barnhill
SGT Gregory A. Belanger
CPL Mark A. Bibby
SFC Kelly M. L. Bolor
SPC Roy Buckley
SPC Dustin R. Brisky
MSG Thomas L. Bruner
SPC Charles E. Bush, Jr.
CPT Paul J. Cassidy
PFC Thomas D. Caughman
SPC Doron N. Chan
SPC Jonathan M. Cheatham
SSG Thomas W. Christensen
SSG Lillian L. Clamens
SGT Ross A. Clevenger
1SG Christopher D. Coffin
SPC Gavin J. Colburn
SGT James S. Collins, Jr.
MAJ David S. Connolly
SSG Todd R. Cornell
SPC Richard M. Crane
LTC Terrence K. Crowe
SSG Donald N. Davis
SPC Lauro G. DeLeon, Jr.
SFC Robert V. Derenda
SSG Christopher W. Dill
SGT Catalin D. Dima
SPC Jeremy M. Dimaranan
SSG Carlos Dominguez
SSG Richard S. Eaton, Jr.
SGT Gary A. Eckert, Jr.
SSG Jeffrey J. Farrow
MAJ Gregory J. Fester
SGT Nathan R. Field
SSG Ryan D. Foraker
SPC Kendell K. Frederick
CPT Brian S. Freeman
SGT Bryan L. Freeman
SGT David T. Friedrich
SPC Luke P. Frist
SPC Nichole M. Frye
SFC Dan H. Gabrielson
SGT David J. Goldberg
PFC Gregory R. Goodrich
PFC Devin J. Grella
CPL Kelly B. Grothe
SPC David E. Hall
SPC Robert E. Hall, Jr.
SGT James W. Harlan
SSG Darren Harmon
SGT Kenneth W. Harris, Jr.
SFC David A. Hartman
SSG Stephen C. Hattamer
SSG Robert Hernandez
SGT Edward R. Heselton
SPC Julie R. Hickey
SGT Anton J. Hiett
SPC Joshua L. Hill
SPC Benjamin D. Hoeffner
SGT James J. Holtom
SFC Merideth L. Howard
SPC Bert E. Hoyer
CPL Rachael L. Hugo
SGT Eric R. Hull
CPL Derence W. Jack
SPC Dustin C. Jackson
CPT Benjamin D. Jansky
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MAJ Alan R Johnson
SPC Robert T. Johnson
SFC Matthew R. Kading
MSG Paul D. Karpowich
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SPC Adam G. Kinser
SSG Charles A. Kiser
SGT Charles B. Kitowski, II
SPC Adam L. Knox
SGT Elmer C. Krause
SSG Mark A. Lawton
SSG Wilgene T. Lieto
CPT Shane R. Mahaffee
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SSG Matthew Maupin
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SPC Christopher T. Monroe
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SSG Richard L. Morgan, Jr.
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SSG James D. Mowris
MAJ Michael L. Mundell
SGT Rodney A. Murray
SGT Paul T. Nakamura
MSG Robb G. Needham
SPC Charles L. Neeley
SSG Clinton T. Newman
SPC Allen D. Nolan
SGT Joseph C. Nurre
SGT Larry W. Pankey, Jr.
SGT Evan S. Parker
SSG Robert J. Paul
SSG Ronald L. Paulsen
SPC Samuel F. Pearson
PFC Luis A. Perez
SSG James L. Pettaway
LTC Mark P. Phelan
SGT Jaror C. Puello-Coronado
SGT Miguel A. Ramos
SSG Joseph R. Ray
SGT Pierre A. Raymond
SPC Brandon M. Read
SGT Regina C. Reali
SPC Ramon Reyes-Torres
SGT Lawrence A. Roukey
1SG Carlos N. Saenz
SSG Cameron B. Sarno
SGT Joshua A. Schmit
SSG Coby G. Schwab
SGT Danton K. Seitsinger
CPL Stephen D. Shannon
LTC Anthony L. Sherman
SSG Russell K. Shoemaker
SSG Benjamin J. Slaven
LTC Albert E. Smart
MAJ Charles R. Soltes, Jr.
SPC Carla J. Stewart
SFC Douglas C. Stone
SGT Michael R. Sturdivant
SGT Joshua A. Terando
SGT Jarret B. Thompson
SSG Frank F. Tiai
SGT Tina S. Time
SFC John J. Tobiason
SPC Brandon Tobler
SGT Nicholas A. Tomko
SPC Juan M. Torres
SPC Teodoro Torres
SSG Nathan J. Vacho
SGT Thomas E. Vandling, Jr.
SGT Jose M. Velez
SGT Chirasak Vidhyarkorn
SGT Brandon L. Wallace
SGT Brad A. Wentz
PFC Raymond M. Werner
SGT Cheyenne C. Willey
LTC Peter E. Winston
SGT James Witkowski
LTC Thomas A. Wren

We honor the lives of these Warrior-Citizens for their service and sacrifice to our country.

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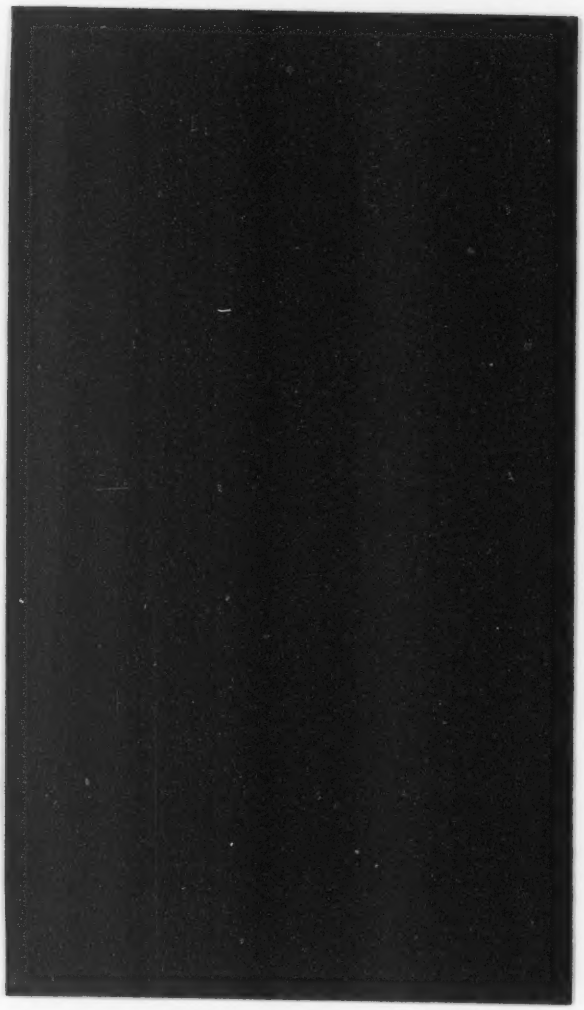

COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS OF THE ARMY RESERVE

The U.S. Army Reserve is commemorating its 100th Anniversary throughout 2008. Commands and deployed units throughout the United States and the world are observing the Army Reserve Centennial by hosting events as small and celebratory as a birthday cake cutting, to solemn memorial services, to occasions as large as base open houses.

Communities across the United States will be helping focus attention on the service and sacrifice of Army Reserve Soldiers and Veterans at Memorial Day and Veterans Day services, in parades and ceremonies, sporting events, state fairs, and recognition from businesses and chambers of commerce. The Anniversary will also be observed through proclamations by cities and states, and the U.S. Congress.

The Army Reserve's Centennial year recently kicked-off in grand fashion with a re-enlistment ceremony for 100 Army Reserve Soldiers stationed in Iraq and Kuwait. The event, presided over by General David Petraeus in Baghdad, Iraq, underscored the commitment of today's Warrior-Citizens; choosing to extend their service to their country while in-theater, and when they are most needed.

On its 100th birthday — April 23rd, 2008 — the Army Reserve will commemorate its centennial with a series of events in Washington, D.C. These national events will include a re-enlistment ceremony for 100 Army Reserve Soldiers from all 50 states at the U.S. Capitol, a wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, and a 100th Anniversary dinner.

"Today's Army Reserve plays a vital role in our national security and serves as the skill-rich backbone of the world's greatest Army," said Lt. Gen. Jack Stultz, Chief, Army Reserve. "As proud as we are of our current accomplishments and capabilities, we can never forget that our generation stands on the shoulders of generations of Americans who have served over the past 100 years."

The Army Reserve Soldiers have answered their call to duty, serving with excellence and honor in every major military and humanitarian engagement of the past 100 years, playing integral roles in World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Cold War, Panama, the Persian Gulf, Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia, Kosovo, the Iraq War and the Global War on Terrorism.

"As we consider the rich 100-year history of the Army Reserve, we have to always remember that our Soldiers are able to serve because they have Families, communities and employers who enable their service," said Stultz. "They deserve our gratitude for their patriotic sacrifice and support for our Soldiers and veterans."

The Army Reserve's Centennial is a remarkable milestone from which to remember and recognize the Soldiers who came before us — and to thank our Veterans, their Families, communities and employers for their indispensible support.

What began as a small medical corps on April 23rd, 1908 turned out to be an incredibly successful force that has ensured our security for 100 years, and has never been stronger — thanks to today's Warrior-Citizens. That's a legacy worth commemorating.

Recognition at the Memorial Day Concert on the National Mall, National Hot Rod Association and NASCAR events, Major League Baseball games, Fourth of July Celebrations, Balloon festivals and state fairs are among the many events and observances that have been planned throughout 2008.

Check for 100th Anniversary events in your area by visiting www.ArmyReserve100th.org.

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